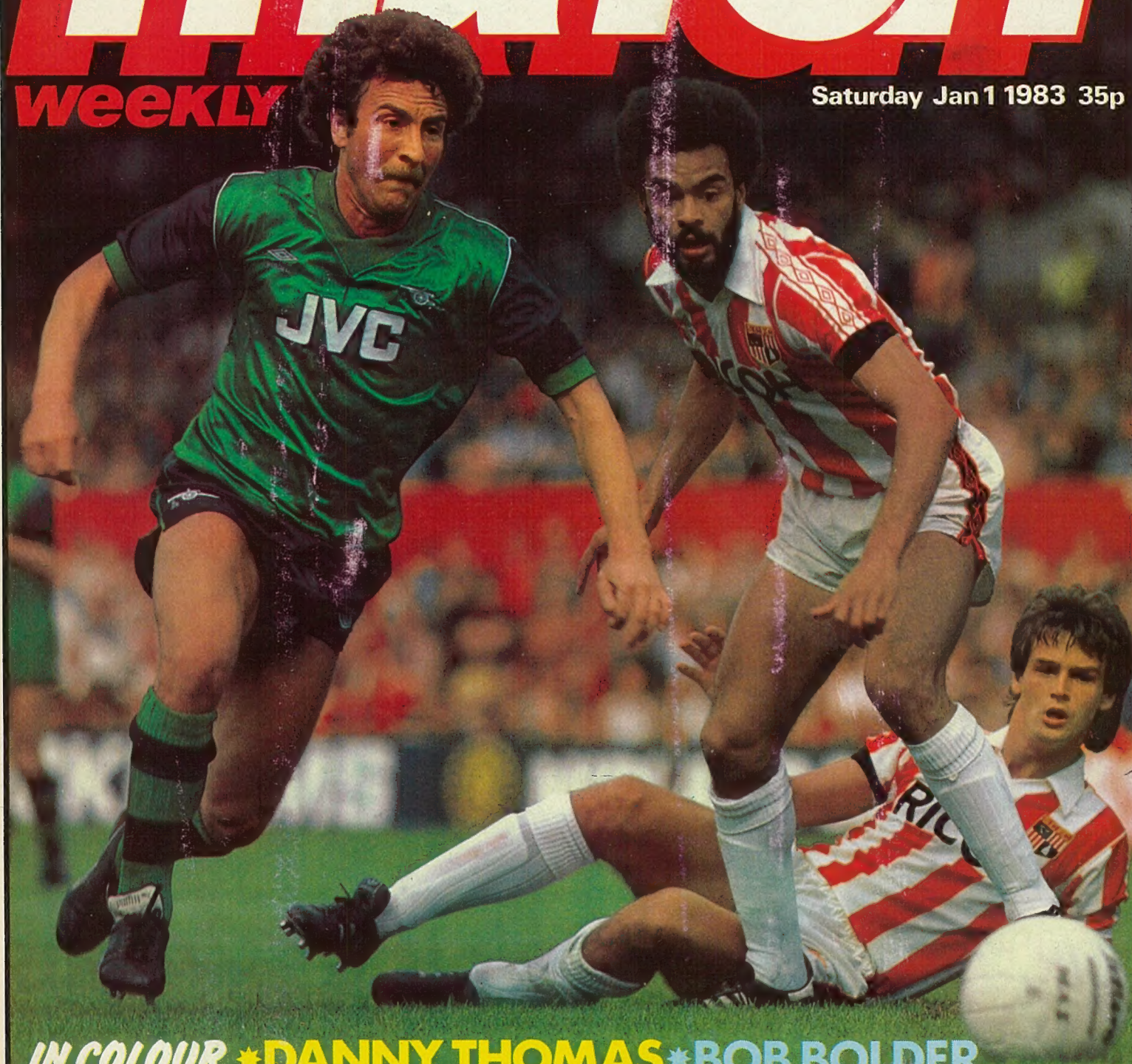


SUPER 1983 CALENDAR-INSIDE

match

weekly

Saturday Jan 1 1983 35p



IN COLOUR *DANNY THOMAS* BOB BOLDER
***JOHN BARNES* KERRY DIXON* CAMBRIDGE**
PLUS... GLENN HODDLE... JIM BLYTH... GORDON STRACHAN
...JOHN RICHARDS... PAUL MARINER... TERRY COCHRANE

GOODBYE 1982 . . . and GOOD RIDDANCE!
While it was a year to remember for some, it was one that couldn't end quickly enough for others.
Their only plea has been roll on '83. 'Match' brings you a taste of what we mean . . .



Peter Reid — finally gets his big chance in the First Division with Everton.

EVERTON'S new signing Peter Reid is hoping that 1983 will signal the end of his injury nightmare.

The midfield star, who was snapped up from Bolton for a bargain £60,000 just before Christmas, suffered a broken leg and had to undergo a cartilage operation in 1982.

During the last 12 months, he was limited to just 24 League appearances and those were in a Bolton side struggling desperately for Second Division survival.

"Last year was very hard. Even though I tried not to let it get me down, there were times when I wondered when it was going to end," says Peter, who was on the transfer list at Burnden Park for two years before finally getting away.

"It kills you when you're not playing. I used to hate sitting in the stands watching the lads play. I felt so out of it."

Peter could be excused for

thinking he's jinxed and he says:

"It has been very difficult for me to prove myself to prospective buyers because no sooner had I got fit, than I seemed to pick up another injury."

"I've had a lot of injuries but you've got to accept them because football is a physical game and you can't expect to steer clear of trouble."

"But I'm hoping that 1983 brings me a change of luck. I've got everything to look forward to. I'm fully fit and I'm in the First Division with one of the top clubs in the country."

Peter looked set to join Jack Charlton at Sheffield Wednesday until Howard Kendall came in with a surprise bid.

"I travelled to Hillsborough to

meet the manager and I was very impressed with the set-up. There's a lot of potential there and the club made me a great offer."

"But when I heard Everton were interested, there was no decision to make. I wanted to play in the First Division and there was the added bonus of going back home," says the Liverpool-born player.

Peter also hopes he can establish himself as an Everton regular in 1983. He says: "I'm going to have trouble getting into the side."

"The day after I signed, I watched them hammer Luton 5-0 and I wondered then how I was going to make the first team."

Peter's former Bolton team-mate Mike Walsh can tell him from personal experience the

PETER'S

GOODBYE

match
WEEKLY

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FRONT COVER CAPTION:
Arsenal's Alan Sunderland
darts past two Stoke City
defenders.

OKAY, so we didn't win the World Cup in 1982. But let's remember the many other good things that DID happen during a year in which British football emerged once more as a power to be reckoned with. Aston Villa's brave European Cup Final victory over mighty Bayern Munich was undoubtedly the highlight of a great year — dealt with in detail in our special feature on pages 14 and 15.

But now is the time to look ahead and 1983 promises to be even more exciting and rewarding for British clubs.

With both Liverpool and Villa still in the European Cup it would take a brave man to back against us retaining the trophy for a remarkable seventh time.

Meanwhile, Aberdeen and Dundee United press confidently forward in the Cup Winners Cup and UEFA Cup respectively.

The new England are firmly on course for the European Championship Finals in Paris and our best wishes go to Eire, N. Ireland, Wales and Scotland in their qualifying groups.

On the home front, there are lots of fascinating questions to be answered. Can Spurs win their third FA Cup in a row? Will Liverpool be champions again or is it Manchester United's year at last? Can anyone stop Celtic's determined run for the Championship?

No-one can be certain of the answers, but there is one thing you can be sure of. Match Weekly will be there throughout it all to bring you the action as it happens!

HELLO 1983

We believe in value-for-money. That means bringing you the best possible news and picture coverage as soon as possible — and not weeks later!

Our unbeatable colour coverage of the big games will always beat other magazines to the punch. So too will our news and features.

And our team of star writers — Glenn Hoddle, Steve Coppell, David Cross, Gordon Strachan, Graham Rix, Paul Mariner and Graeme Souness — has been carefully chosen to bring you the inside stories from club and country.

And don't forget Match Facts, a totally unique results service more detailed and up-to-date than any other. Match Facts alone makes Match Weekly well worth the money, say many of our readers.

In addition, we'll continue to bring you lots of fun competitions with super prizes EVERY week.

So if you don't want to miss out, stay with Match Weekly during 1983 and have a happy New Year.

Melvyn Bagnall
EDITOR

TERRY'S TORMENT

DISASTROUS is probably the best word to describe 1982 as seen through the eyes of Middlesbrough forward Terry Cochran.

The Irish international could hardly have had a worse year and he is looking forward to 1983 more than most footballers.

His side were relegated from the First Division, he wasn't named in Northern Ireland's squad for the World Cup Finals and he suffered a hamstring injury which kept him out of the game for over a month.

"All in all, it was a very frustrating and disappointing year," says Terry. "It was an awful feeling when Middlesbrough were relegated, and missing out on the World Cup was another bitter blow."

"Middlesbrough lost a lot of good players — and the manager — and to cap it all I missed a lot of games towards the end of the season because of injury."

But with Malcolm Allison now in charge at Ayresome Park and Terry fully recovered from injury, he is hoping for better things in 1983.

"Big Mal has instilled fresh hope at the club and I am looking forward to a successful 1983 at Middlesbrough," says Terry, who admits: "I am glad to see the back of 1982."

INJURY NIGHTMARE

tough job he faces. Since his move to Goodison in August 1981, he's made just 20 League appearances.

"I'm not scared of the challenge. I've got confidence in my own ability," says Peter, who joined Bolton straight from school — after turning down a chance to sign for Everton.

"I turned them down because I felt I had a better chance of getting into the first team at Bolton.

Everton had plenty of cash and

could buy players whereas at Burnden Park they had to rely more on their youth policy.

"Even though I had my ups and downs at Bolton, I enjoyed my stay there. I certainly hope they win their battle against relegation. They are a great little club.

"There's no doubt that 1983 is going to be a tough year because they face an uphill battle. But they are a great set of lads and they know exactly what they're up against."

CUP-PRICE striker Justin Fashanu must be wondering what the New Year has in store for him as he embarks on another phase of his chequered career.

But whatever happens to him at Notts County during the next 12 months it is hardly likely to compare with the drama of his last few months at Forest.

The former Norwich City hero looked destined for great things in 1982 following his £1m move to Forest. But it turned out to be a year to forget.

Verbal clashes with outspoken Forest boss Brian Clough led to him being banned from the ground and later transferred to neighbours Notts County for a meagre £150,000.

Now Justin has put those bitter memories behind him and is hoping for better things across the River Trent in 1983.

WHAT New Year resolutions might the stars of our game be making as 1983 kicks off? 'Match' suggests a few ideas . . . all in fun of course.

IS THAT A PROMISE?

BRIAN CLOUGH — to leave crowd control (and clown control) to the police.

Former Argentina manager CESAR LUIS MENOTTI — to stop smoking.

DIEGO MARADONA, recently rapped for nightclubbing in Paris — to be in bed by 10 pm every night.

SCOTTISH GOALKEEPERS — to take lessons from their English counterparts.

JIMMY GREAVES — to stop inviting Gary Newbon on 'Star Soccer'.

JIMMY HILL — to find enough bottoms to fill Coventry's unfilled seats.

JOHN BOND — to stop describing everything as 'magic'.

JUSTIN FASHANU — to score a League goal in Nottingham!

TREVOR FRANCIS — to keep away from Claudio Gentile.

CREWE BOSS PETER MORRIS — to finish 91st in the League instead of 92nd!

CELTIC MANAGER BILLY McNEILL — to have a difficult League match.

WATFORD MANAGER GRAHAM TAYLOR — to forget the knockers and carry on winning.

KEVIN KEEGAN — to make himself available for England again.

LUXEMBOURG 'KEEPER MOES — to take his hat off before he plays (see picture of Moes in training).

MATCH WEEKLY — to continue to provide our readers with the best, most up-to-date and colourful reading in football.

1982 AND GOOD RIDDANCE!

STEVE'S WISH

GIANT defender Steve Wicks' greatest wish for 1983 is to see QPR back where they belong — in the First Division.

And he puts Rangers' return to the top flight above his own personal ambitions for the New Year when he says: "I wouldn't mind if I didn't play until the last few games of this season if Rangers were assured of promotion."

Steve is currently sidelined for the second time this season. He broke his ankle in pre-season training and then, on his return to the side at Cambridge, he was carried off with cartilage trouble.

There's no doubt that the blond centre-half is pleased to see the back of 1982 for as well as the injuries he also missed out on two FA Cup Final appearances at Wembley.

"I was desperately disappointed and I was beginning to believe what people were saying — that I was injury-prone. That was before I talked to former Chelsea star Ian Hutchinson.

"He said that if I started feeling sorry for myself it would only make matters worse. The alternative was to say that the

New Year gives me a chance to make a new start. He told me to forget the past and concentrate on the future. That's just what I intend to do.

"I haven't set myself a target for my comeback even though I'm making steady progress. Besides, who's to say that once I'm fit I'll go straight back into the side?"

"I had to wait for my chance last time because the team were doing so well. The same thing could happen again."

QPR face West Brom in the Third Round of the FA Cup next week and the only certainty in that game is that Steve will be missing again.

He had to sit it out when the two teams met in last year's Semi-Final and Rangers made sure of a Wembley place with a goal from Clive Allen.

Steve was cup-tied following his transfer deadline day move from Crystal Palace.

"The West Brom game is one I'd have loved to have played in. It was frustrating having to sit out the climax of last season's thrilling Cup run. I was really looking forward to helping the lads go one better this time."



Middlesbrough's Terry Cochrane — glad to see the back of 1982.



Keep your eye on the ball! Luxembourg goalkeeper Moes clowns around in training . . . but it was harsh reality against England.



SNAPPY STRIKER!

LIVERPOOL's transfer-listed forward Craig Johnston finds himself at the other end of a camera lens for a change.

Craig's hobby is sports photography and he hopes to enter that field when his playing days are over.

Here he is seen getting in some practice at Headingley during the Rugby League Test between Great Britain and Australia.

BATTLING BANTAMS

CALLING all you Subbuteo playing members of the Bradford City Junior Bantams Club.

Here's your chance to become the Bradford City Subbuteo Champion.

The eight winners in a special Subbuteo competition will compete for the title before the Third Division club's home game with Wigan on Saturday, January 22.

Everyone who enters the competition will receive a prize and the eight finalists will receive a free stand seat for the game, plus the chance to win a leather football, a Bradford City team strip, a sports bag and trophies from 'Match Weekly'.

So write for a competition entry form, including your Junior Bantams membership number, to Subbuteo Sports Games Ltd, Bradford City Competition, Castle Gate, Oulton, Leeds LS26 8HG.

Robson raves over Danny

ENGLAND boss Bobby Robson has hinted that young Coventry full-back Danny Thomas could be very much part of his plans in '83.

He says of Danny, voted Robinson's Barley Water 'Young Player of the Year' for November: "The fact that I've brought him into the England squad shows how I view him as an emerging international player.

"He has a very quick football brain and is athletically quick to match. He's an excellent user of the ball and springboards defence into attack instantly."

TINKER, TAYLOR, SOLDIER, SPY!

IF you watch Third or Fourth Division soccer from the terraces and your team includes a particularly promising player, take a look around you at the next home game — that man next to you in the cap and muffler could be one of England's most famous managers.

Peter Taylor, the man responsible for unearthing some of the major stars in the last 15 years, is back in "disguise" to scour the lower divisions for talent.

Taylor explains: "I am never happier than when I'm on the lookout for new talent but I have never believed that this involves sitting in a director's box guest seats along with a lot of other managers and scouts.

"That is too cosy. There are too many people around to break your concentration, guess your secrets and pick your brain. That's why I prefer to operate incognito.

"I get out the old cap and muffler and pay to watch a game because I know there are other clubs interested," explained Taylor, who recently snapped up Halifax striker Bobby Davison from under the noses of several First Division clubs.

Now he is looking for more new talent to revive Derby and he says: "That will mean a few more outings for the cap and muffler. I suppose I have a reasonably well-known face to football followers but you'd be surprised how few people recognise me in my disguise — and that's the way I like it."

● GLASGOW referee Ken Hope regularly gets through four plastic whistles in every match! The reason is that Ken, who officiated in the Scottish League Cup Final between Rangers and Celtic, gets so excited during a match that he bites them in half!

Pumped-up Pompey

LOOKING ahead to the New Year is Portsmouth's top scorer Alan Biley.

He reckons the Third Division side are poised to unseat Southampton and Brighton and become the top side on the South Coast.

"We may be a couple of divisions lower than the other two at the moment, but it won't be for long," says Alan who signed from Everton in the summer.

"I'm convinced we'll be playing in the Second Division next season, and even then we'll probably draw bigger crowds than either of the others.

"There's still a terrific football following in Portsmouth, just longing for the club to produce the team they deserve, and the side manager Bobby Campbell is assembling could be the one they've been waiting for.

"I tasted the special atmosphere on Merseyside during my spell with Everton, and I sense a similar love of football down here. With a good side, and that kind of support behind us, the sky's the limit."

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

● IT'S little wonder they nearly hoisted the flags at Highfield Road in salute to Brian Roberts' goal in Coventry's first away League win of the season at West Ham... it was his first in nearly 11 years with the club!

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

● WHAT a debut for 17-year-old Northampton forward Frankie Belfon.

Coming on as substitute in the 69th minute with Northampton trailing 1-0 at home to Gillingham in their FA Cup Second Round replay, he scored twice in a thrilling 3-2 victory.

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MIGHTY MOSES

ENGLAND Under-21 international Remi Moses enters 1983 in far more confident mood.

At this time last year, Remi was out of the Manchester United side and struggling to settle down after his £500,000 move from West Brom.

But now the 20-year-old has taken with both hands the chance presented to him when skipper Ray Wilkins was injured in October.

And manager Ron Atkinson is certainly happy with the midfield terrier, although he admits that it's taken time for the Old Trafford fans to

appreciate Remi's hard-tackling qualities.

"Remi has taken a lot of stick from supporters, but in my book he's been one of our best players in recent weeks," he says.

"We all know he's a good ball-winner but Remi's got more skill than the public give him credit for and I'm sure, now he's got his full confidence back, the United fans will begin to appreciate just why I, and assistant manager Mick Brown, both rate him so highly."



Mike Thomas — hectic match day preparation.

THOMAS IS TIRELESS!

MIKE Thomas, an inspiration in a Stoke City midfield currently receiving rave notices, could be excused for looking weary after City's 2-0 defeat of Spurs at the Victoria Ground.

The previous day, Mike had spent 15 hours in the maternity unit of St. Asaph Hospital in Wales before celebrating the birth of a baby daughter.

And, on the same day, he moved house from Rhyl to Endon on the outskirts of Stoke!

Not ideal preparation for match day — but Mike still had enough left to produce a dazzling display that rammed the 'Brighton reject' taunts back down the throats of the Spurs fans.

England manager Bobby Robson, there chiefly to assess

the progress made by Glenn Hoddle after injury, must have been more impressed by the never-say-die qualities of the battling Stoke midfield, and Welshman Thomas in particular.

"I loved every minute of it," admitted Mike, who already has a two-year-old son Aaron. "Richie Barker told us not to give their big names too much respect... that they were no better than us. We took the same attitude at Arsenal earlier in the season and beat them 2-1."

Mike puts much of Stoke's success this season down to having the right balance in midfield. "I'm not just saying it because I play there, I really believe that if you have the midfield working properly, it makes things happen for you.

"Paul Bracewell is very under-rated. I always try to give

him a mention when I talk to the Press because I don't think he gets the praise he deserves. He works hard, wins the ball and has great vision.

"Sammy McIlroy is a super touch player and, between us, I think we have the right balance."

Mike, who started at Wrexham before moving on to Manchester United, Everton, Brighton and Stoke, has been dubbed the 'bad boy' of football.

Now, he insists, all that is in the past — thanks to Stoke City and Richie Barker.

"I've had a really bad time. Few players could have had such terrible experiences. I even thought of packing up the game!

"I always knew I could play. All I needed was a manager to believe in me. Now I've got one.

"This is the best club I've been to since Wrexham. I'm really enjoying it."

MATCH CHAT

Compiled by Melvyn Beck

A wish for Kevin

FULHAM defender Kevin Lock's New Year wish is to play in the First Division next season at his old West Ham stamping ground.

Kevin left Upton Park four and a half years ago, but, with Fulham in the Second Division promotion race, he sees his dream coming closer to reality.

"We started the season as rank outsiders. And, even up to a few weeks ago, I still don't think too many people were taking us seriously," he says.

"But we haven't blown up as they expected. In fact, we've been getting better and better."

NORWICH'S NEW YEAR REVOLUTION

THERE'S a blunt New Year message to the cynics who are predicting a quick return to the Second Division for Norwich City.

It comes from goalkeeper Chris Woods who palms away the sneers by saying: "Forget it. This time last season we weren't being given any hope of promotion — yet we made it because of our tremendous run during the second half of the season," adds the young 'keeper.

"I'm convinced we can come up with a repeat performance this time, too. We're under pressure, of course, but speaking personally I seem to thrive on that sort of thing.

"If I can do my stuff in goal, and at the same time inspire the lads in front of me, then I don't think we'll have any problem in staying up."

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

● WILL 1983 be Derek Statham's year?

Certainly his boss at West Brom, Ron Wylie, would have no hesitation in elevating him to full England status...

He says: "Derek's a natural — a player capable of playing in ANY class of football. He has genuine quality, terrific competitive spirit and the priceless ability to make those around him play as well."

ROVERS DO A ROARING TRADE...

FORMER England striker Mike Channon (left) is helping manager Bobby Gould take Bristol Rovers to market as part of a scheme to revitalise the Third Division club.

The players have been asked to sell Rovers' scarves, hats and badges from a stall in Eastville market.

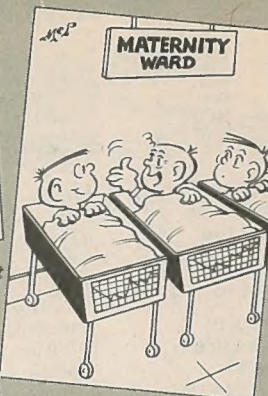
"Putting it bluntly, this is to help save them becoming part-timers. The days of footballers having a night club image are over," says Bobby.





"Oh come on ref! It's the first game of the year and surely you've heard of the old Scottish custom of first footing!"

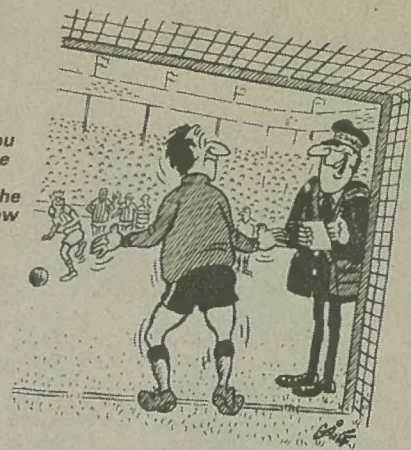
"Right, that's phase one of my plan to play for England safely accomplished!"



"Just a small seasonal gift from the boys!"

'Match' helps you bring in the New Year with a smile . . .

"I believe you own the blue Mercedes outside on the double yellow lines?"



"I know, I know, the wee winger's finally lost his head and clobbered the big animal right back — and boy am I glad I didn't see it!"

It's Fun Time



"That's what I call a header!"



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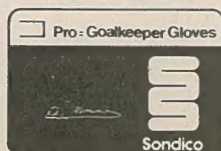


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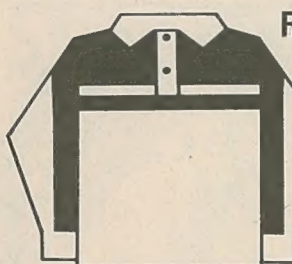
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THE GLENN HODDLE COLUMN



OSSIE ARDILES and myself are on the same wavelength and the message I'm sending out loud and clear is: Welcome back!

It's a great bonus to have a player of Ossie's class back at White Hart Lane as we kick off 1983.

I can honestly say it's a joy to play alongside him and we do have a terrific understanding on the pitch.

But while I'm looking forward to teaming up with him again, I don't agree with those people who have suggested my game has suffered during his self-imposed exile in France with St Germain.

I regard last season as the best of my career so far and my form in the final few weeks — following Ossie's departure — was as good as at any time.

All talk before Christmas was of Ossie making his comeback for Spurs in our FA Cup Third Round tie against Southampton.

But according to manager Keith Burkinshaw, he looked very unfit when they met in France to seal his earlier-than-expected return.

Ossie will obviously have to work as hard as he can because no player has a divine right to a place in the team. He'll have to earn his chance just like anyone else.

Of course we'd heard rumours that Ossie might be back with us early in the New Year but we only found out for sure about an hour before we kicked off against Birmingham a week before Christmas.

Whether or not it gave us a spur I don't know, but we won the game 2-1 to end a lean run. It was only our second victory in eight League matches... and we'd failed to score in five of those!

We'd been creating as many chances as normal but we just weren't sticking them away.

In the end, it was my England colleague Gary Mabbutt who came to the rescue. Regular striker Steve Archibald was sidelined with flu so Gary played up front alongside Garth Crooks and scored both our goals in the second half.

It was just what we needed and now it seems we have another ace up our sleeve.

Gary could so easily have made it a week to remember for goals by scoring his first for his country in England's 9-0 demolition of Luxembourg in the European Championship qualifier at Wembley the previous Wednesday.

With a bit more luck, he could have had a couple against the team from the 'Grand Duchy'.

I came on for Gary in that game with about ten minutes to go. The game was over with England 7-0 in front so it was easy to slot in, but I was well chuffed with my goal. It was a sweet connection.

It was my fourth goal for

The Spurs and England midfield ace rings in the New Year with the return of Argentinian ace Ossie Ardiles to White Hart Lane. Don't miss his regular column throughout 1983.

WELCOME BACK, OSSIE!



Flashback to the June 26, 1982, issue of 'Match' when we brought you the exclusive story that Ossie Ardiles wanted to return to Tottenham... while all around were saying he would never play in England again.

England at Wembley and I'm sure the place brings the best out of me. It's a fabulous stadium in which to play and every occasion is special.

Naturally I was delighted to get back in the England reckoning following my long lay-off through injury.

And while I was bitterly disappointed not to make the starting line-up, a long chat with manager Bobby Robson got my spirits back up.

He pointed out that the midfield had done so well in the previous game against Greece

and I could understand his point of view. England certainly did the job asked of them on the night. While Luxembourg were arguably the poorest international side England have ever played, we still had to get the ball in the net. There can be few complaints on that score!

Remember there have been times when inferior teams have gone away from Wembley having only been beaten 2-1 or 1-0.

The country needed a boost with our cricketers not doing the business down under against

Australia and, all in all, it wasn't a bad way to end 1982 on the international scene!

From a personal point of view, the year was soured by my knee injury and the smaller, niggling problems that followed, but at least I saw in 1983 100 per cent fit.

The highlight would have to be Spurs lifting the FA Cup for the second year in succession. That was fabulous.

Hopes for 1983? Winning the FA Cup for the third time in a row will do nicely!

We begin our defence a week on Saturday against — of all teams — Southampton. It was against the 'Saints' last year that I picked up my injury but I don't think it's going to worry me.

Spurs won 6-0 in that League encounter at White Hart Lane but I suppose we can reckon on a tougher game this time around.

Southampton played very well in the run-up to the holiday programme and, with England goalkeeper Peter Shilton as the last line of defence, we'll need to be at our best.

Still, you can't ask for much more than a home draw — even if it is against First Division opposition.

I just hope by the time you read this, we've enjoyed some good results over Christmas.

We were looking to win all our holiday fixtures to stand a realistic chance of making up ground on the League leaders.

See you in two weeks...

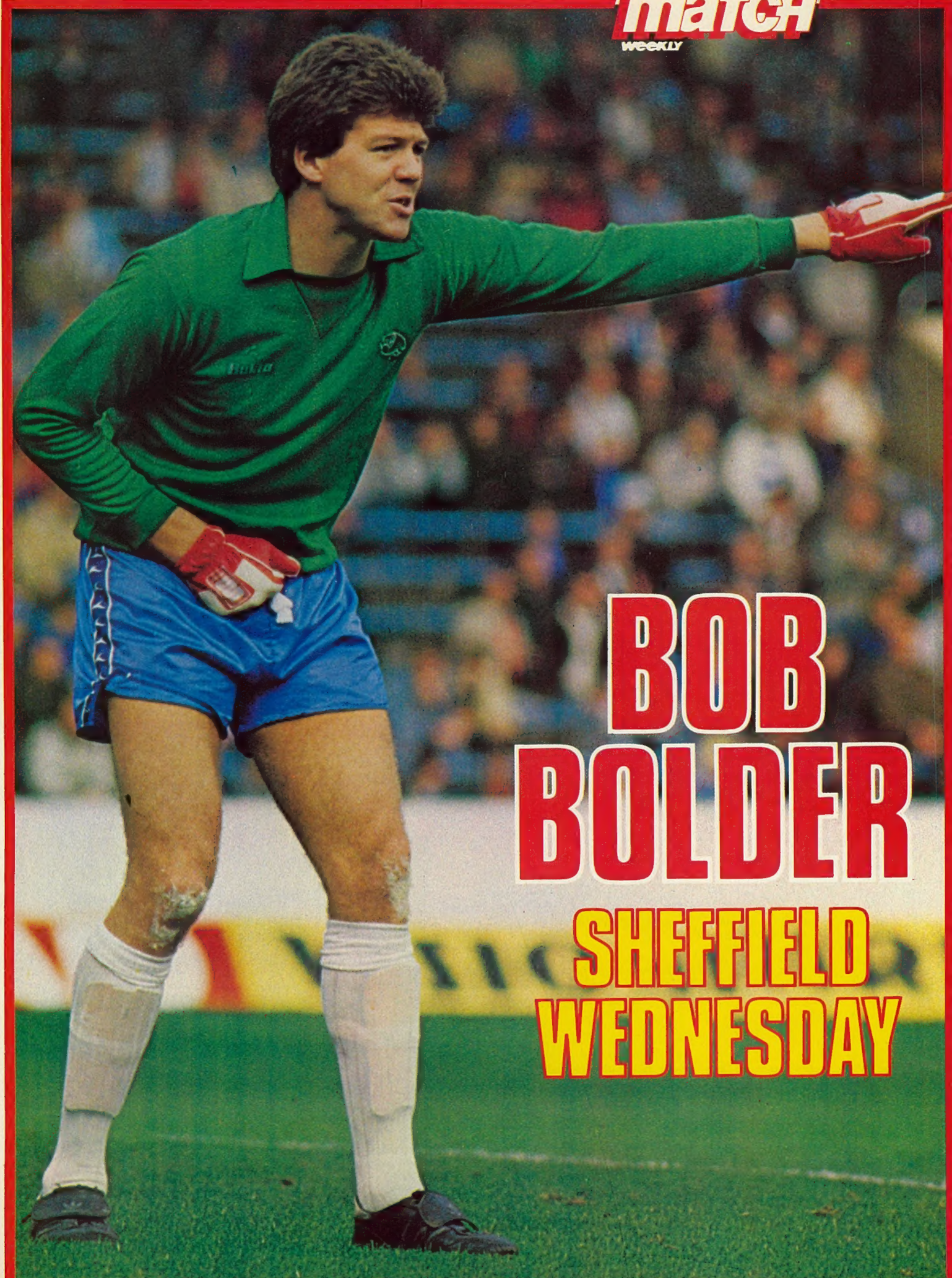
Glenn Hoddle

● Glenn Hoddle was talking to Paul Stratton.



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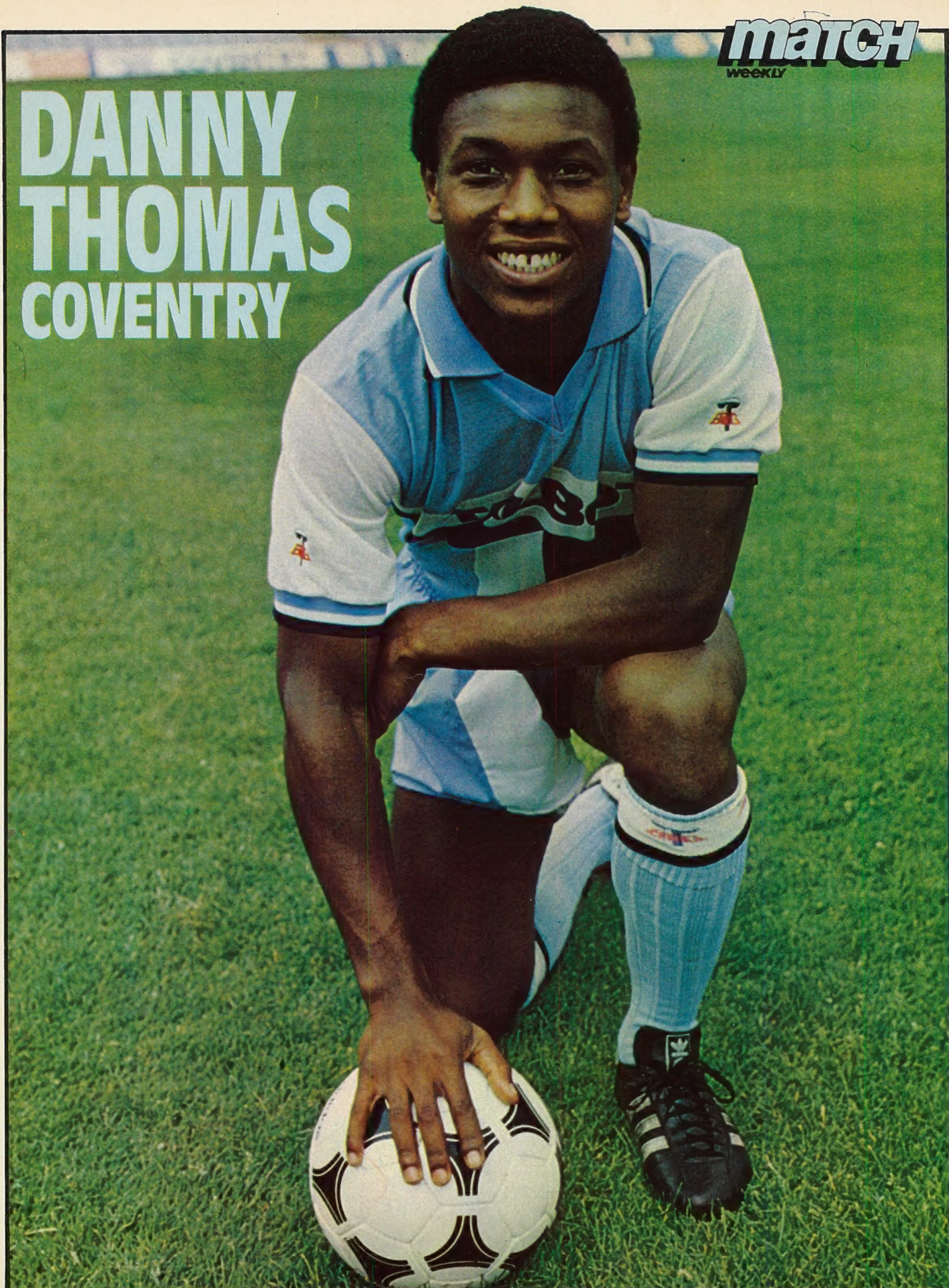
match
WEEKLY



**BOB
BOLDER**

**SHEFFIELD
WEDNESDAY**

DANNY THOMAS COVENTRY





'Match' starts the new year off with a smile . . . bringing you some of soccer's sunnier moments.



Let's

celebrate



Oh yes! Ipswich striker Alan Brazil (top left) is over the moon after giving his side the lead against Luton . . . but beaten goalkeeper Jake Findlay just can't believe it.

Champion. Everton's Graeme Sharpe (top right) milks the applause of the Goodison crowd after scoring his side's second goal in a 2-0 home win over Sunderland.

Left: The smiles say it all. Wolves' striker Mel Eves is in jubilant mood after scoring, and high-riding team-mate Billy Livingstone is only too happy to join in the celebrations.

Above: Let's celebrate. Delighted Norwich players rush to congratulate striker John Deehan on his goal in the 1-1 draw at Arsenal.

Far left: "Put it there pal." A delighted Kenny Dalglish is about to get a well-deserved hand shake from Liverpool colleague Sammy Lee after scoring his second goal in the 3-0 home win over Spurs.



BODAK'S BLUES

PETER TRIES HIS LUCK WITH CITY...

YOUNG winger Peter Bodak's career took yet another crazy turn when he crossed Manchester to join arch rivals City on a month's loan.

Peter, on the 'soccer scrapheap' after being released on a free transfer by Coventry in the close season, joined his third First Division club in seven months when he swapped the red jersey of United for the blue favours of rivals City.

The 21-year-old had failed to make a League appearance for United — restricted to reserve games as the first team maintained their strong challenge for the title.

Now he's the man City boss John Bond hopes will provide the right service for his goal-starved strikers, while his Old Trafford counterpart Ron Atkinson is keen for Peter to sample the First Division air again.

"There's no way I'm going to get into the United side while they are doing so well so I jumped at the chance of a move to City," says Peter.

He made his League debut — his first Division One appearance for nearly a year — in City's 1-1 draw against Brighton.

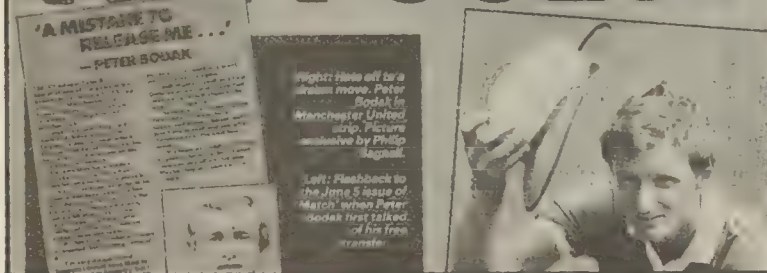
"Ron Atkinson was keen for me to play in front of big crowds again and the move to City gave me just the chance I needed. I'm really enjoying myself.

"Although I was happy at United — they are the best club in the world — there's nothing to compare with playing in the First Division. Reserve team football can get you down.

"I knew when I joined United that I faced a difficult task to break into the side and that's just how it turned out. The longer they keep winning, the slimmer my chances are.

"I thought I might get a chance when Steve Coppell was injured earlier in the season, but the manager decided to play Remi

'IT'S LIKE WINNING THE POOLS!'



Moses instead. You can't complain about that. After all, Remi cost United £500,000 from West Brom so it was obvious that he'd want to play his big-money signing."

Peter, who made 32 First Division appearances for Coventry, doesn't believe he's got anything to prove during his stay with Manchester City.

He says: "People know what I can do. I don't think I've got to prove myself. I wasn't released by Coventry because I didn't have the ability.

"The reason I was sacked was because of my off the field activities. I mucked about too much. Now I've learnt from that. I won't take things for granted again.

"I got a lot of press coverage when I burst onto the scene with Coventry and although I didn't let it go to my head I expected to get the same sort of reports every week.

"It just didn't happen and I suppose I let it get to me," says Peter, who joined Coventry straight from school.

The first person Peter saw when he drove into the Manchester City car park was his former Coventry team-mate Bobby McDonald.

"It was great to see Bobby again. He welcomed me to the club and said that as long as I played as I did for Coventry I shouldn't have any problems

settling in."

Peter hopes that City fans have forgiven him for scoring a spectacular goal against them in last season's FA Cup when he ran the length of the field and chipped the ball over City's Joe Corrigan. Coventry won the tie 4-1.

"When I was getting changed before my debut, manager John Bond reminded me of that goal. He told me to go and score one like it for City. I was disappointed not to oblige.

"John has signed me to provide the crosses for strikers Kevin Reeves and David Cross. He told me that City needed someone who could get to the byeline."

Peter doesn't believe that he's under any pressure to make the move permanent. He says: "If the chance came to sign for City, then obviously I'd have to think about it.

"The prospect of playing first team football appeals to me but I'm still very happy at United. If I have to go back there it won't worry me."

Crossing the great divide to City has brought plenty of ribbing from Northern Ireland international Norman Whiteside and United centre-half Paul McGrath, who share the same United digs as Peter.

He says: "They sometimes pull my leg about being a deserter, but it's all in fun."



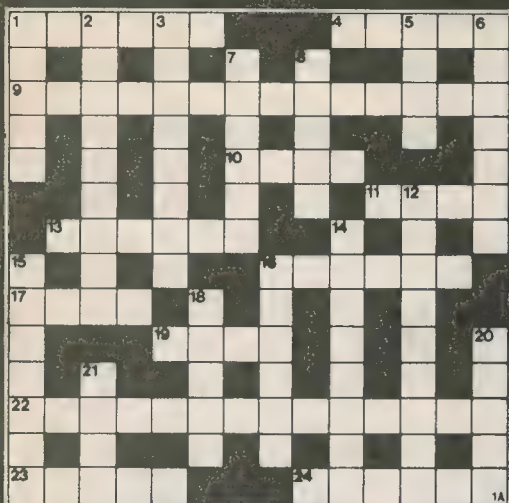
Above: Peter Bodak — joined his third First Division club inside seven months when he signed on a month's loan for Manchester City.

Left: Flashback to the close season when free transfer Peter Bodak joined mighty Manchester United.

Below: Manchester City full-back Bobby McDonald — he played with Peter at Coventry.



SOCCERWORD



ACROSS

1. & 12 down. Notts County's team manager (6,9)
4. This time it's manager Murphy (5)
9. 'Mr Rand Titcombe' (anagram) — the Arsenal man (5,9)
10. Hareide hides the chap who has often played alongside him for Manchester City (4)
11. The sign of Tosh's team (4)
13. A sweeper — up (6)
16. Perhaps he is Derby's favourite player when it was raining! (6)

17. Find a manager by taking one letter from each word in turn of 'wins all the way' (4)
19. — Biley has been amongst the goals for Portsmouth this season (4)
22. 'Ran boots in ruts' (anagram) — has he done it whilst playing for Newcastle and Aldershot? (5,9)
23. Add a letter to 17 across to find Glyn who has represented Barnsley (5)
24. Defender who made his 100th appearance for Birmingham last season (5)

DOWN

1. This famous old Birmingham and England keeper sounds like a Scottish club (5)
2. He made his debut for Manchester United at the end of last season and won several caps during the summer (9)
3. He had the right first name to become West Bromwich Albion's manager — he was their third one on the trot! (3,5)
5. The sign of Millwall's men (4)
6. It's sort of all round the back of the goal! (7)
7. Puts the ball into the right part of the 6 down (6)
8. Taylor or Tully (5)
12. See 1 across
14. The posts stand on it (4-4)
15. Northern Ireland usually play their home matches at — Park (7)
16. Scottish international midfielder who came from Hearts and had a spell with Chelsea before going back over the border with Dundee United (6)
18. An ever-present for Middlesbrough last season (5)
20. Cliff — famous old Spurs and Wales winger (5)
21. If you were to change the first letter of this club's name to 'D', they wouldn't be too pleased! (4)

BE A WINNER WITH

QUICK QUIZ

IT'S the end of another year, so how well do you remember the soccer events of 1982? If you get between 8-10 correct consider yourself an expert; 6-8 good; 4-6 average; below 4 — keep reading 'Match'.

- 1 Name the two losing World Cup semi-finalists?
- 2 Who scored England's first goal in the World Cup Finals?
- 3 Who scored Scotland's goal against Brazil in the World Cup Finals?
- 4 Who finished second to Liverpool in the League Championship?
- 5 Who were the losing FA Cup Semi-Finalists?
- 6 Who did Aston Villa beat in the European Cup Final?
- 7 Who were the last British survivors in the UEFA Cup last season?
- 8 Who ended Tottenham's European Cup Winners' Cup hopes?
- 9 Who won the Scottish FA Cup last season?
- 10 Who won last season's Third Division title?

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SPOT THE LINK

Can you name the three players pictured and the
common link between them?

SOLUTIONS

SOCCERWORD Across 1 & 12 down: Howard Wilkinson; 4: Colin; 9: Brian McDermott; 10: Jones; 21: Hull.
DOWN 1: Dennis; 2: Dennis; 3: Dennis; 4: Dennis; 5: Dennis; 6: Dennis; 7: Dennis; 8: Dennis; 9: Dennis; 10: Dennis; 11: Dennis; 12: Dennis; 13: Dennis; 14: Dennis; 15: Dennis; 16: Dennis; 17: Dennis; 18: Dennis; 19: Dennis; 20: Dennis; 21: Dennis; 22: Dennis; 23: Dennis; 24: Dennis.
SPOT THE LINK: A: Martin Jol (West Brom); B: Arnold Muhren (Man. United); C: Romo Zondervan (West Brom). They are all Dutchmen and played for FC Twente.
HAPPY NEW YEAR: 1: Harris; 2: Osmian; 3: Stapleton; 4: Hampton; 5: Naylor; 6: Hankin; 7: Kennedy; 8: Power; 9: Handysides; 10: Linker; 11: Nicholson; 12: Martin.
NICKNAMES: 1: D; 2: C; 3: B; 4: A; 5: D.

KICK OFF THE NEW YEAR IN STYLE!



HAPPY NEW YEAR

RIDDLE TIME

I STARTED my career with Preston before a three-quarters of a million pound move to one of the First Division giants in 1979. But I was on the way to the South coast after just one season. I made my international debut against France in 1980 and scored in my second game against Cyprus.

Don't miss next week's 'Match Weekly' for the identity of our mystery star.

● The answer to last week's 'Riddle Time' was Manchester City full-back Bobby McDonald.

KICK off the New Year in a brand new pair of football boots.

We're giving away ten pairs of Inter Footwear's super 'Roma' boots in another great FREE-to-enter 'Match Weekly' competition.

'Match' has always been the tops for prizes and we aim to continue the same high standards in 1983.

So we are kicking off the year in tremendous style by offering boots that will make you the envy of your friends.

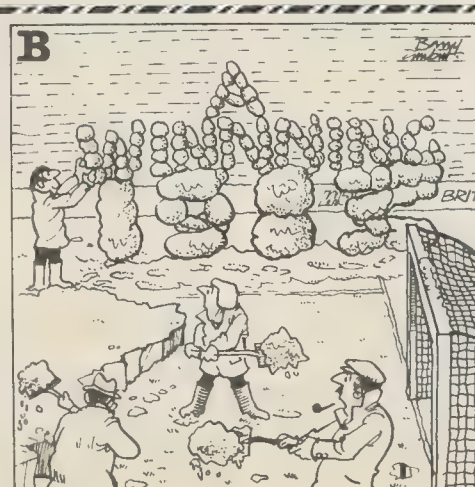
All you have to do to stand a chance of winning one of these super prizes is to take a careful look at the two drawings.

They may look identical at first glance, but there are ten deliberate differences.

Just circle them with a pen or cartoon B, fill in the entry form, stating your name, address and shoe size, and send it off to: Football Boots Competition, Match Weekly, 14 Holkham Road, Orton Southgate, Peterborough PE2 0UF.

The senders of the first ten correct entries pulled from the 'Match Weekly' postbag will receive a pair of boots.

Entries must reach us by Friday, January 6, and the names of the lucky winners will be announced in our January 21 issue.



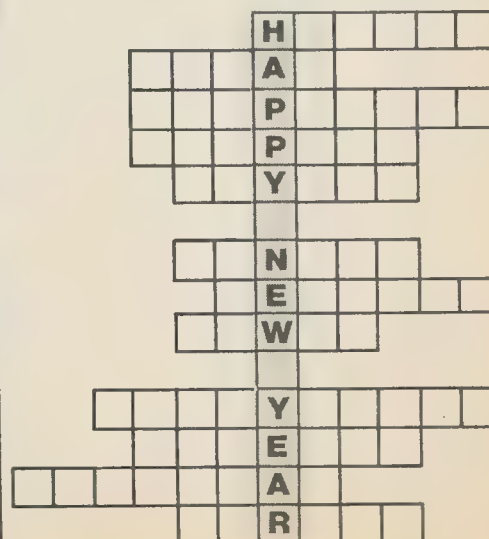
Name

Address

Shoe size

CAN you solve the following clues to complete the grid? If your answers are correct, they should spell 'Happy New Year' down the centre.

- 1 Brentford player-coach.
- 2 Ipswich and England defender.
- 3 Eire forward in Manchester.
- 4 Stoke defender.
- 5 Charlton's former Spurs man.
- 6 Middlesbrough striker.
- 7 Swansea skipper.
- 8 He leads Manchester City.
- 9 Birmingham youngster.
- 10 Leicester striker.
- 11 Arsenal's Welsh international.
- 12 Newcastle's Eire star.



NICKNAMES

Can you match these clubs with the list of nicknames on the right?

- | | |
|-------------|------------------|
| 1 Reading | a) The Ironsides |
| 2 Port Vale | b) The Tigers |
| 3 Plymouth | c) Valiants |
| 4 Newport | d) The Royals |
| 5 Hull | e) The Pilgrims |



Left: Celtic are Scottish Premier Division Champions for the fourth time and skipper Danny McGrain is shouldered by his delighted team-mates.

Above: Bryan Robson scores the second of his two goals in the 3-1 victory over France in England's opening match in the World Cup Finals.

Top right: Northern Ireland hero Gerry Armstrong celebrates with emotional manager Billy Bingham following the team's passion-packed victory over hosts Spain in the World Cup Finals.

Right: Match-winner Glenn Hoddle cradles the prized FA Cup following Spurs victory over Queen's Park Rangers at Wembley.

THAT WAS THE

THAT was the year that was...

Yes, it was the year the jolly green giants of Northern Ireland stole the hearts of millions with their 'Incredible Hulk' type adventures in the World Cup Finals.

And, if that wasn't enough excitement for one year, Billy Bingham's imps promptly sat the arrogant West Germans on their backsides in the European Championships.

It's little wonder they had smiles as wide as the Irish Sea with England having twice been

● **REPORTER Melvyn Beck goes on a fascinating trip down memory lane to bring you the highlights of 1982.**

frustrated by the European Champions in the year they came so close, yet so far away, from regaining world recognition.

It was the year when 'Bulldog Bobby' lost his bite at the crucial time, and duly buried a World Cup Semi-Final tag, yet England confounded their critics by returning unbeaten from the Spanish sunshine.

Glory in Spain went to Italy, spearheaded by Paolo Rossi, the villain turned hero, who inspired

Enzo Bearzot's men to their third world championship.

But from the home front, it was the Irish who captured the limelight.

Who can forget the night they humbled Spain in their own backyard despite having Mal Donaghy sent off?

The way they resisted the Spanish armada in the teeth of overwhelming passion and fervour from the Valencia faithful had even the uncommitted clinging to the

edges of their armchairs, tears welling up with nationalistic pride.

Their glory trail ended at the hands of the revitalised French on the brink of the Semi-Finals, but in true John Wayne fashion 'they died with their boots on'.

With the World Cup Finals now a fading memory, all roads lead to France and the 1984 European Championship Finals.

And of all the countries bidding for qualification, it was England who showed the world and their fans how to score goals when they enjoyed a carnival-style nine goal spree against punch-drunk Luxembourg last month to finish



YEAR THAT WAS

their international year in style.

At club level, Aston Villa did English football proud by winning the European Cup for the first time, the sixth successive success for English clubs in the competition.

A Peter Withe goal did the trick that May night in Rotterdam against Bayern Munich, "playing a one-two off an upright" as one Villa player joked afterwards.

But the unlikely hero was reserve goalkeeper Nigel Spink, a replacement for the injured Jimmy Rimmer in the opening minutes, who kept the German aces at bay.

It was just a pity that Villa's bid

for the World Club Championship in Japan went West in the East!

Tottenham were not to be denied a piece of silverware.

After a Milk Cup Final defeat at the hands of Liverpool in March, they returned again to Wembley in May to defend the FA Cup against Second Division Queen's Park Rangers.

Terry Fenwick forced Tottenham to a second successive Final replay with a last minute header in extra-time, but it was Glenn Hoddle who settled matters from the penalty spot a few days later.

It was against Tottenham at Anfield in May that Liverpool

clinched their 13th Football League Championship after a remarkable second half of the season.

They lost just two of their last 25 League matches from the start of the New Year!

North of the border, Celtic lifted the Championship for the umpteenth time, while Aberdeen went goal-crazy in extra-time to topple Rangers 4-1 in the Scottish FA Cup Final.

Rangers had already denied Dundee United a hat-trick of League Cup triumphs before the turn of the year, but that trophy moved across Glasgow to Celtic after their 2-1 victory in December.

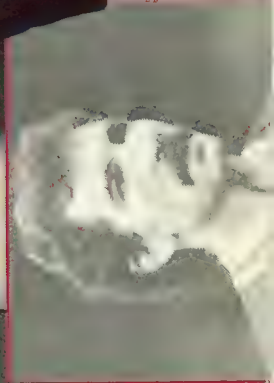
Big money transfers were few and far between.

Even so, Italian club Sampdoria managed to orchestrate a third million pound move for Manchester City and England striker Trevor Francis... former England skipper Kevin Keegan, later to say he would never play for his country again, kidded us all by joining Second Division Newcastle... and Danish international Allan Simonsen had everyone asking 'Why Charlton?' when he arrived at The Valley.

Yes, 1982 was a year to remember... and now we all wait to see what '83 holds in store.

match

weekly





THE top names in football write for Match Weekly... Steve Coppell, Glenn Hoddle, Graeme Souness, Gordon Strachan, David Cross, Graham Rix and Paul Mariner. Keep in touch with soccer's top team during the exciting months ahead by reading their exclusive columns.

SOCCER CALENDAR

JANUARY

Mon	3 10 17 24 31
Tue	4 11 18 25
Wed	5 12 19 26
Thu	6 13 20 27
Fri	7 14 21 28
Sat	1 8 15 22 29
Sun	2 9 16 23 30

FEBRUARY

Mon	7 14 21 28
Tue	1 8 15 22
Wed	2 9 16 23
Thu	3 10 17 24
Fri	4 11 18 25
Sat	5 12 19 26
Sun	6 13 20 27

MARCH

Mon	7 14 21 28
Tue	1 8 15 22 29
Wed	2 9 16 23 30
Thu	3 10 17 24 31
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Sun	6 13 20 27

APRIL

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JUNE

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Sun	5 12 19 26

JULY

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Wed	6 13 20 27
Thu	7 14 21 28
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Sat	2 9 16 23 30
Sun	3 10 17 24 31

AUGUST

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Tue	2 9 16 23 30
Wed	3 10 17 24 31
Thu	4 11 18 25
Fri	5 12 19 26
Sat	6 13 20 27
Sun	7 14 21 28

SEPTEMBER

Mon	5 12 19 26
Tue	6 13 20 27
Wed	7 14 21 28
Thu	1 8 15 22 29
Fri	2 9 16 23 30
Sat	3 10 17 24
Sun	4 11 18 25

OCTOBER

Mon	3 10 17 24 31
Tue	4 11 18 25
Wed	5 12 19 26
Thu	6 13 20 27
Fri	7 14 21 28
Sat	1 8 15 22 29
Sun	2 9 16 23 30

NOVEMBER

Mon	7 14 21 28
Tue	1 8 15 22 29
Wed	2 9 16 23 30
Thu	3 10 17 24
Fri	4 11 18 25
Sat	5 12 19 26
Sun	6 13 20 27

DECEMBER

Mon	5 12 19 26
Tue	6 13 20 27
Wed	7 14 21 28
Thu	1 8 15 22 29
Fri	2 9 16 23 30
Sat	3 10 17 24 31
Sun	4 11 18 25

1983

OUT OF THE ROUGH

HOGMANAY is a time when the Scots take their celebrating even more seriously than usual. Ringing in the New Year is a traditional high spot on the calendar north of the border.

But my own personal celebrations will be restricted to dinner in front of the television set in the bedroom of a secluded hotel.

I probably won't even set foot outside my room. Celebrations can get a wee bit excited and I don't want to get involved — especially with Aberdeen playing Hibernian at Pittodrie on New Year's day.

Since I was 15-years-old I've always played football on the first of January so I miss out on the high jinks of the night before.

The game against Hibs is one I relish because I used to support the Edinburgh-based side when I was a youngster.

They've struggled at the bottom of the Premier Division this season and I'm hoping 1983 brings them better fortune.

The defence has been strengthened recently by the purchase of my former Scotland team-mate Alan Rough, who was signed from Partick Thistle.

He's brought more confidence to the back four. Before he arrived it looked a bit jittery and his predecessor Jim McArthur had come in for a lot of criticism.

Being back in the Premier Division is certainly going to help Alan's chances of reclaiming his place in the Scotland team. While he was in the First Division there was no way he could have had hope.

By all accounts Alan is playing very well — his performance against Morton last month was described as world class.

Even though Alan has come in for a lot of criticism in the past I've always regarded him as a very good goalkeeper. Of course he's made a couple of mistakes but I've even seen Ray Clemence drop the odd clanger.

It's human nature to make mistakes — everyone does. I've yet to see the perfect goalkeeper.

The game against Hibernian will also give me a chance to have a chat with two friends — their manager Pat Stanton and his number two George Stewart.

I know Pat from his days as assistant manager at Aberdeen and I used to share digs and play alongside George when I was at Dundee.

Two days later we travel down to Tannadice Park for a top of the table clash against Dundee United and if past records are anything to go by it should be a cracking game.

We've already played them twice in the League this season and the honours are even at one victory each. They beat us 2-0 at their place on the opening day of the campaign and we gained ample revenge with a 5-1 win in November.

Dundee United's style of play is

HOGMANAY HOPE FOR ALAN

very similar to that of Watford. They like to get the ball into the opposition danger area as soon as possible.

Even their goalkeeper Hamish McAlpine plays his part in the tactic. He can kick the ball into the opposition goalmouth.

In Billy Kirkwood, Ralph Milne and Derek Stark Dundee United have a trio who love to hit shots at goal from outside the box. We'll have to keep our eye on them.

We were all very disappointed following our 2-1 defeat by leaders Celtic. It put us four points behind the current Champions, who still have a game in hand.

But there's still a long way to go and we've got to play Celtic twice yet before the end of the season.

We put in a very undisciplined performance against the Champions. I believe it was one of Aberdeen's worst of the season.

Celtic played the better football and thoroughly deserved to win the game.

I picked up a thigh injury in that match when I clashed with Celtic's Tommy Burns and for a time it looked as though it might rule me out of Scotland's European Championship match against Belgium in Brussels.

Fortunately I recovered in time but I couldn't help prevent us going down 3-2 against a Belgian side which is undefeated at home in their last 17 internationals.

I'm convinced that if we'd had more time to prepare for that match we could have beaten the Belgians. They were together for ten days before the tie while all we had was one proper training session.

Obviously the turning point was when Frank Gray missed a penalty, but the goalkeeper moved before the kick was taken. It was so blatant it was embarrassing.

While we were being beaten by Belgium, England were knocking the stuffing out of Luxembourg at Wembley and blitzed them with nine goals.

And it really brought it home to me how lucky England were in the European Championship draw. Look at Scotland's opponents compared to those the English have to face.

I'm sure they'd rather be playing the likes of Luxembourg and Greece than East Germany and Belgium!

The New Year is traditionally a time to look ahead and make resolutions. I've never made a



THE GORDON STRACHAN COLUMN

The Aberdeen and Scotland favourite wishes 'Match' readers a happy Hogmanay and looks forward to 1983.

resolution in my life, so my only hope for 1983 is that it turns out as well as 1982 did for me.

I'd just like to see football being played as it ought to be and for Aberdeen to be successful.

The New Year could herald the emergence of exciting new talent in Scottish football. Obviously the man of the moment is Celtic striker Charlie Nicholas and if he keeps scoring at his present rate he could end up with 40 goals this season.

Charlie has been helped by the fact that Celtic are a very attack minded side, but he's shown himself to be just the lad to snap up the chances.

At Pittodrie we've got quite a jewel in young striker Eric Black. He's just as good as his Celtic counterpart and I'm sure we'll be hearing more of him in 1983.

And another youngster who could mature this year is Ralph Milne. I've already mentioned his skill at hitting the ball from outside the area, but the Dundee United player is a very dangerous winger too.

Wingers by nature blow hot and cold and lack consistency, but when the youngster is on form he looks a very exciting prospect.

Happy Hogmanay — I'll see you in two weeks!

Gordon Strachan

● Gordon Strachan was talking to Anthony Hawkswell.



Soccer Mad?

"A PGL Soccer holiday will score with you"

says Ray Wilkins, England Captain.

"If you fancy yourself as England Captain, I reckon there's no better place to start"

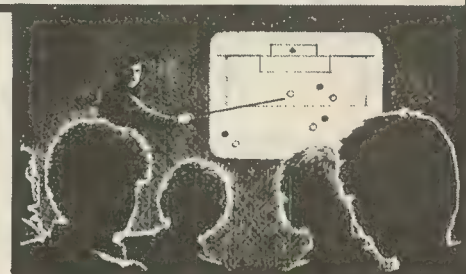


PGL run these soccer holidays for kids aged 8-21 at centres in the UK and Holland. You get grouped for coaching and training depending on your age and ability.

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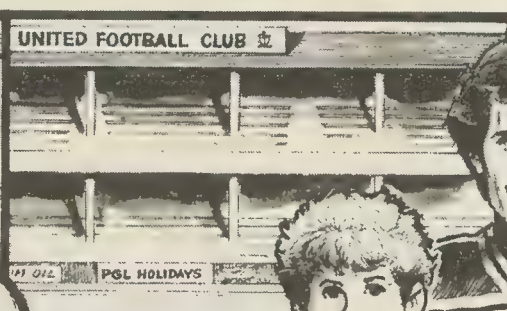
Then you put into practice what you've learned in full matches and 5-a-side games – outside and in the gym. That's always great fun!



In the evening there's lots to do, including talks and film shows – you learn more about the great soccer names and games.



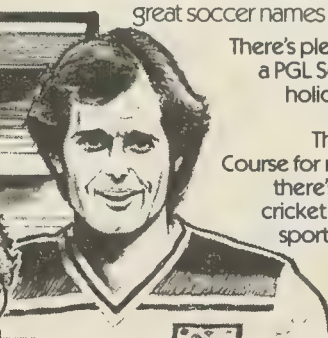
And then you actually **meet** the stars. You talk to famous players, about their soccer careers and their special techniques and see them in action!



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PROGRAMME

REVIEW SPOT

CHARLTON have go-ahead ideas on the field, notably with the signing of Danish star Allan Simonsen from Barcelona.

But their match day programme, priced at 50p, doesn't quite live up to the Second Division club's new image.

We looked at the publication for the clash with Middlesbrough. It contained 24 pages, but eight of those were made up by a national programme insert.

So it didn't exactly spill over with club information, although there was plenty of reading, so long as Charlton fans looked further than The Valley.

STAR RATING GUIDE: ***** Superb; **** Good; *** Satisfactory; ** Poor.

How the Charlton programme fared:
Content: ***; **Pictures:** ***; **Colour:** ***;
Information: ***; **Entertainment:** ***;
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SWOPS

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The senders of the first five correct entries pulled out of the 'Match Weekly' postbag will receive the prizes.

Entries close on Friday, January 7, and the results will be announced in our January 22 issue.

The questions are based on England's match with Northern Ireland at Wembley earlier this year:

- 1 What was the score?
- 2 Who scored England's first goal?

Entry form

1.....

2.....

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The fourth and final token will appear in next week's issue, and then we shall give you details of how to apply for your five FREE programmes.

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So cut out this third token (below) keep it safe, and you're on the way to a free set of programmes.



NORTHERN Ireland full-back Jimmy Nicholl ended the year believing in miracles. Remember this quote before the recent home defeat of West Germany: "We produced a small miracle in the World Cup Finals, but we'll need an even bigger one against the Germans."

● **Let's hope you get another miracle with Sunderland in the New Year!**

"WE only need a real centre forward to turn us into a great side and I think Rossi will do that for us in Spain."

"He will be eligible, and, with him, I think we can win the World Cup."

Italy's strongman Marco Tardelli was certainly spot-on with that statement made in 'Match Weekly' twelve months ago.

● **A stud mark for you, Marco, no, sorry, I mean full marks!**

AND how right Middlesbrough goalkeeper Jim Platt was in March with this quote: "You never give up hope in this game but it looks as though we need a miracle to stay in the First Division."

● **No, Jim, you didn't get the luck of the Irish!**

GERMANY ... EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS

WE NEED A MIRACLE

JIMMY Nicholl admits Northern Ireland need a miracle to beat West Germany! The full-back, who has rejoined Sunderland on loan from Toronto Blizzard, says: "We produced a small miracle in the World Cup Finals, but we'll need an even bigger one against the Germans."

"It's going to be a very tough game for us and we'll have done well if we come out with any kind of result."

Northern Ireland face the might of the World Cup runners-up next Wednesday in Belfast. It

force!

says Jimmy Nicholl

FLASHBACK to our November 13 issue when Northern Ireland defender Jimmy Nicholl claimed they needed a miracle to beat West Germany.

will be their first home game since their success in Spain. Our fans will be expecting a lot from us and we can't afford to let them down," says the former Manchester United star.

Even though we're going to be playing at home in front of our own supporters, we'll be underdogs for this one.

Our only chance is if we can contain and frustrate them for the first 20 minutes. We've got to stop them knocking the ball about when they are at their most dangerous. We can't let them humiliate us. We've got to win with the first attack and first shot at goal.

Germany have got so many potential players like Karl Heinz Röttger and Pierre Littbarski that they can turn a game on their own."

They had a disastrous start when they were beaten 2-0 by the Irish in their first game. We were

in the World Cup

with We

re 90



'MATCH' reporter Melvyn Beck takes a tongue-in-cheek look back at some of the more notable soccer sayings during 1982 ... with apologies to those who got it wrong!

THEY SAID IT!

BUT not everyone got it right in 1982.

What about Leeds stalwart Eddie Gray before his summer elevation to player-manager. Back in February, he predicted: "I can see no reason why Leeds can't continue to climb the First Division and finish in the top six."

● **He obviously didn't tell the rest of the players.**

AND Martin O'Neill was way off mark the same month on his assessment of Norwich's chances of promotion: "I'm not being pessimistic, but Norwich have a lot of catching up to do if they are to gain promotion this season."

● **That was being pessimistic, Martin!**

BRAZIL full-back Junior may be one of the best in the world, but he's not top of the League when it comes to forecasting.

In March, he claimed: "I don't think there will be too many surprises in the World Cup. The champions will come from Brazil, West Germany and Argentina, and I think we will win the Cup."

● **Stick to playing Junior!**

AND even Nottingham Forest manager Brian Clough gets it wrong at times, although he probably wouldn't admit to that. Remember this praise of West German signing Jurgen Rober who has since moved on.

"Jurgen Rober has the ability to play a ball, he's got a fair degree of vision to go with it and I'm



Gary Mabbutt — He said: "All I can do is keep playing well and hope some of the bigger clubs take notice."

confident he can bring these qualities to our play that have been lacking since Archie Gemmill left. We've tried one or two — it's about time we got it right."

● **I won't mention Fashanu either Brian!**

THERE'S certainly been some crackers to emerge from the Yorkshire soccer hotbed of Sheffield.

There was the Terry Curran affair. In July he told us: "Leaving Hillsborough would be the toughest decision of my life."

A month later, after moving across the city to United, he claimed: "I thought leaving Wednesday would be the toughest decision of my life, but in the end it was easy."

"I was disillusioned with life at Hillsborough and had made up my mind to leave the club halfway through last season."

● **Short memory, Terry!**

AND, as Sheffield United struggle to make an impact in the Third Division this season, what about the claim from top scorer Keith Edwards after they had won the Fourth Division Championship.

"I can see no reason why Sheffield United can't maintain this season's form and get back to the First Division."

● **Be careful you don't go back the other way!**

MANAGER Ian Porterfield put the matter in perspective: "Anyone who thinks the job at Bramall Lane



Jim Platt — He said: "We need a miracle."

is over after winning promotion shouldn't be here. Next season is going to be harder than the last one."

● **How right he was ...**

A PLAYER who didn't have a crystal ball was Tottenham's Gary Mabbutt.

Here's what Gary said when he was still in the Third Division with Bristol Rovers last season: "I was disappointed when the Luton deal fell through, but all I can do is keep playing well in the hope that some of the bigger clubs will take some notice."

● **Tottenham did, and now Gary glitters for club and country.**

LONG-TIME Molineux favourite John Richards talks frankly about his future to reporter Dave Smith.

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

JOHN Richards' up and down footballing career would have ended long ago if the Wolves striker had listened to suggestions that he should "hang his boots up".

Three times in the last six years, the player who has so often been the hero of Molineux has been forced out of action through serious injury, and each time the soccer critics have written him off.

But the 32-year-old striker never accepted that his playing days were over.

Says John: "I was written off in 1976 when I had two operations on my knee within the space of three months, and again two years later when I had a similar operation.

"And when I was injured at the start of this season, people were again suggesting that I should pack the game in.

"But I never accepted that my career was over and I seem to keep bouncing back," says John, who is now in the middle of his second month on loan at Derby County.

His spell at the Baseball Ground — the first time he has been away from Wolves in 14 seasons — has helped him regain his form following the close-season injury. He scored on his third outing for County, in the 1-1 draw at Burnley.

In fact John couldn't have had a more disastrous start to his preparations for the League campaign.

He explains: "It was the first day of pre-season training in July and I twisted my leg badly and burst a blood vessel in my knee.

"I wanted to get back into training as quickly as possible because I didn't want to miss the start of the season, but I tried to do too much too soon and upset the knee again."

The new season was well under way and Wolves were riding high at the top of the Second Division by the time John recovered from the ill-timed injury.

"I had played a few games in the reserves and felt I was ready for first team action again so I went to see manager Graham Hawkins to have a chat about the situation," says John.

"At the time, the team were playing tremendously well and he said that he couldn't consider me for the side.

"I was bitterly disappointed that I didn't figure in the manager's immediate plans, especially as I hadn't been given the chance of getting a place in the first team — not even as substitute.

"I told the boss I was not happy about playing in the reserves and asked if I could go on loan to a club where I could get first team football."

Soon after John made his request, new Derby boss Peter Taylor stepped in.

And John, realising the situation had not changed at Molineux, accepted the offer. "I

'HANG YOUR BOOTS UP!'

... BUT RICHARDS PROVES HE'S NOT FINISHED YET



John (right) enjoys a glass of champagne with fellow striker Mel Eves following Wolves shock League Cup triumph over Nottingham Forest. Now Mel's form is keeping John out of the Wolves side.

had to go because I needed to prove to myself and to Wolves that I could still play well in high grade football," he says.

During a successful first month on loan at Derby, when John struck up a good understanding with big striker Dave Swindlehurst, he began to recapture his old form.

And at the end of the loan period he was looking forward to returning to the club that had been his home for so long and fighting for a first team place.

But things didn't work out that way and John discovered there was still no room for him in the Wolves side.

"Peter Taylor asked me to stay at Derby for another month because things had gone so well," says John. "Although I wanted to go back to Wolves I didn't fancy the idea of playing in the reserves so I agreed to stay on."

The Wolves boss agreed to extend the loan period, but only on condition that John doesn't play in any cup games for Derby, and could be called back at 24 hours' notice.

The first proviso means that John will not be able to play for the Rams in the crunch FA Cup tie against neighbours Nottingham Forest on January 8.

And he is naturally disappointed he will miss out on the game which throws one-time partners and now opposing managers Brian Clough and Peter Taylor into head-on battle.

"The whole place is buzzing in anticipation of the game and I would have loved to play," says John. "But instead I will have to watch it from the stands."

John says he has no plans for a permanent move to Derby and is determined to win his place back in Wolves' promotion-chasing side.

He says: "While I'm at Derby I will do my best, but I stated from the onset that I would not leave Wolves. I have been there for 14 years and still feel that's where my future lies."

It was only a matter of months ago that a threat of closure hung over Wolves and it seemed that the one-time great club would fold.

"That was a terrible time for everyone connected with the club," says John. "But things have turned full circle and the place is buzzing again."

"Everyone is working hard to get Wolves back in the First Division where they belong and I want to be a part of that."



Derby striker Dave Swindlehurst — John's partner at the Baseball Ground.

CAMBRIDGE UNITED



Back row (left to right) Dave Donaldson, Martin Goldsmith, Jamie Murray, Steve Fallon, Keith Lockhart, Floyd Streets, Les Cartwright.
 Middle Row: Joe Mayo, Chris Turner, Lindsay Smith (now with Plymouth), Richard Key, Dean Graygoose, Mulcolm Webster, Andy Beattie, George Reilly
 Front row: Tom Finney, Tommy O'Neill, Steven Pyle, Steven Spriggs, Graham Watson, Derrick Christie, Ray Nicholls, Bobby Fisher.

march



**JOHN
BARNES**
Watford

STAR GALLERY



Jane Baker of Pontardawe, Swansea has drawn Manchester United's midfield star, Bryan Robson (above). Says Jane: "Signing Bryan was the best thing Ron Atkinson has ever done."

West Brom full-back Derek Statham (left) is one of the best ball-winners and distributors in English football, according to Jeff Perry, of Cheltenham.

DRAW a picture of your favourite footballer and you could win a fabulous soccer card game! 'Big League' is an exciting new game normally played by 2-6 people — the object being to form a team of 11 players.

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It's a game approved by the Football League and all you have to do to stand a chance of winning one is send in your drawing together with a sentence saying why your chosen player deserves a place in 'Star Gallery'.

The sender of each drawing published is a winner! Write to: 'Star Gallery', Match Weekly, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DJ.

Frank Lampard
WEST HAM U.N.

Trevor Brooking
WEST HAM UNITED

Sally Radcliffe of Brighouse, West Yorkshire, believes Kevin Keegan deserves a place in 'Star Gallery' because "he is the most dedicated player around".

Dundee United and Scotland star Paul Sturrock (left) is the study of Johnathan Halloway, of Calverton, Nottingham. "Paul is probably the best player in Scotland," says Johnathan. "He has fine skill and shooting power."

TERRACE TALK

Edited by
Michael
Weavers



WELCOME to the best read letters page in football . . . with unique prizes for every reader who gets his or her letter published!

Yes, throughout the season we'll be giving away a super metal lapel badge (pictured) to every person whose comments are published in 'Match' and each badge will carry that special 'Terrace Talk' logo.

It's a prize that money can't buy and one could be yours!

Plus we will be giving a prize of £10 for what we consider to be the star letter of the week and, of course, the sender will also receive a 'Terrace Talk' badge.

So get those letters coming in NOW and you could be the envy of your friends.

Write to: Michael Weavers, 'Terrace Talk' Editor, Match Weekly, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DJ.

AFTER watching a very enjoyable Norwich v Liverpool League match, several fans decided to wait outside the Carrow Road ground for the Liverpool players' autographs.

It was quite cold and only the prospect of meeting Liverpool's stars tempted me to stay with them.

After waiting nearly an hour, the Liverpool team came out and — with the exception of Alan Kennedy — refused to sign autographs.

Are Liverpool now so famous that they haven't got time to sign autographs for mere mortals like us?

I'm glad I support Norwich — their players are only too pleased to sign for the fans — and I'm equally glad that City beat Liverpool 1-0!

Anne Taylor, Norwich, Norfolk.

I AM annoyed at the way players infringe the ten-yard rule at free-kicks.

When a team is awarded a free-kick near their opponents' goal, their opponents usually form a wall, with one player breaking off as the kick is about to be taken in an attempt to charge down the shot at goal.

The 'charging' player is often only a few yards away when the kick is taken.

My dad is a Southern League referee. He thinks players that don't stay ten yards away should be booked. And so do I. Matty Stevenson (12), Poole, Dorset.

● **ONE way to make sure defenders kept the full ten yards away would be to adopt one of rugby's laws where, if a defending player fails to retire the full ten yards, the kick is re-taken ten yards further upfield.**

WATFORD have got it right on the pitch, and they've also got it right in the way they look after fans.

There's a happy, family atmosphere at Vicarage Road and the club are to be congratulated for the opening of their £200,000 stadium station, which prevents visiting fans from wandering around the town centre.

Watford are a go-ahead club with bright ideas to match their refreshing approach on the park. I wish other clubs showed the same initiative.

John Wells, Wandsworth, London.

I'M an Ipswich supporter and, after watching the Sunderland v Ipswich clash recently, I travelled back by train and lent my newspaper to a fellow passenger.

He turned out to be a Wimbledon player, returning from his club's match at Darlington. He then introduced me to his manager, who gave me a programme signed by each of his players, which I gave to my delighted nephew.

This kind gesture is typical of

the friendly atmosphere which exists between genuine supporters, players and officials. P. Ransom, Chelmsford, Essex.



Craig Johnston — proved his worth to Liverpool, says Julie Smith.

I HOPE that Craig Johnston, who said in 'Match' recently that he was prepared to leave Liverpool in search of regular first team football, has got his differences with the club sorted out.

Craig's extended run in the Liverpool first team has proved his worth to the side. He's now just as valuable to the team as Kenny Dalglish and Ian Rush.

He's a super player and I look forward to seeing him in a Liverpool shirt for many seasons to come.

Julie Smith (18), Dukinfield, Cheshire.

THE gulf between the big guns of the First Division and the lower lights of the Third and Fourth Divisions is rapidly diminishing.

Games at the bottom end of the Football League are just as skilful and exciting as they are in Division One.

I support Brentford and every game I have seen this season has been entertaining.

In the Milk Cup, Brentford beat Blackburn and Swansea before bowing out to Nottingham Forest after giving Brian Clough's team a run for their money.

Bradford, Wigan, Huddersfield and Lincoln have also given great performances against top clubs, which just proves that the lower divisions are alive and kicking — and are worth more support than they are getting at the moment.

Chris Abigail, Brentford, Middlesex.

Golden Goof

"IRISH clubs are no longer the poor relations of British football," says George Beare, of Bandon, Eire, "not when we can field a team that holds second place in the English First Division."

Perhaps it was the influence of Irishmen Pat Rice and Gerry Armstrong on Watford that caused this Golden Goof . . .

DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	P
Liverpool	16	10	4	2	7
Watford	16	9	3	4	
Notts For	16	9	2	5	
Man. Utd.	16	8	4		
West Ham	16	9	1		

**£10
WINNER**

Harmful highlights

TELEVISION, on its own, is not killing soccer . . . but it is having a harmful effect.

Armchair football fans are accustomed to highlights — the best 30 minutes or so of a 90-minute game.

Consequently, when they do venture to a match, they have to put up with stoppages, time-wasting and all the other less interesting parts of the game and come away feeling disenchanted.

The only cure for this is for a ban on highlights. Soccer matches on TV should be shown in full — warts and all — so that the viewer gets a better idea of what he will see from the terraces.

Daniel Ford (15), Headley Down, Hants.

HERE'S my football top ten:

- 1 Pass The Dutchie — Arnold Muhren.
- 2 Captain Sensible — Bryan Robson.
- 3 Hands Up — Bruce Grobbelaar.
- 4 I Did It My Way — Kenny Dalglish.
- 5 He's A Model — Ronnie Whelan.
- 6 Young Guns — Sammy Lee and Gary Mabbutt.
- 7 Talk, Talk — John Bond.
- 8 Zoom — Ian Rush.
- 9 Don't You Want Me? — Justin Fashanu.
- 10 Mirror Man — Malcolm Macdonald (following his exclusive stories in the Daily Mirror).

David Bass, Dublin, Eire.

I TOTALLY agree with England and Manchester City goalkeeper Joe Corrigan who said in 'Match' that he is against the formation of a Super League.

Joe argued that the biggest clubs don't necessarily produce the best teams. He's right. It would be unfair to exclude present Division One clubs from a Super League just because their attendances, at present, don't match up to the bigger name clubs.

Simon Patton, Bewdley, Worcs.

WHY is there continued talk of a Super League? It already exists within the First Division!

The clubs with money, and the ability to generate money, will always be a class above the less fortunate clubs.

The likes of Manchester United, Liverpool, Manchester City, Arsenal and Spurs are well supported — better than the rest — and it is they who can pay the biggest wages and, ultimately, they will collect all the top players.

When transfer fees were at a realistic level, more clubs could compete for the best players. Now, a lot of clubs don't even bother to make a bid. Even if they can afford the transfer fee, they know they cannot match the wages offered by the elite.

David Barclay, Hebburn, Tyne and Wear.

WHAT a pity that ace Liverpool striker Ian Rush is a Welshman. He's just the sort of attacker England desperately needs.

For cool, clinical finishing, there is no Englishman to match him. Rush could turn England into a world football force overnight.

Paul Smith (14), Penn, Bucks.

IT'S about time UEFA got tough with Spain's cynical soccer sides.

After witnessing the brutal tackling of Valencia against Manchester United this season, and the disgraceful tactics of Barcelona against Tottenham last season, surely the governing European football body should ban Spanish sides from their cup competitions.

'Match' recently published the views of Diego Maradona, Bernd Schuster and Allan Simonsen, who have all competed in the Spanish League and all condemned the vicious tackling they suffered. UEFA should step in and stop this Spanish 'thuggery'.

Simon Tamilia, Milford Haven, South Wales.

HOW much longer will Garth Crooks have to wait before England manager Bobby Robson realises that Garth is the answer to his goal-scoring problems?

Robson has tried just about everyone else up front since taking over from Ron Greenwood, but seems to ignore the Tottenham striker.

Crooks could be the man to lead England's attack in the next World Cup if only Robson would give him a chance.

Michael MacHale, Co Dublin, Eire.

● GARTH scored 13 League goals last season . . . and that's not the record of a potential international striker.



Garth Crooks — England's answer, says Michael MacHale.

SWOP SHOP

OFFER: Manchester United football bag.

WANTS: Liverpool football bag. Ibrahim Benjelloun, 15 Digswell House, Monks Rise, Knightsfield, Welwyn Garden City, Herts.

OFFER: Three hundred and forty five football '81 sticks.

WANTS: Anything to do with Kevin Keegan, Liverpool, a Subbuteo League Cup or Peter Barnes' autograph.

Peter Duke, 11 Oak Lane, Maybury, Woking, Surrey GU22 8BX.

OFFER: Bolton Wanderers first strip (26-28 inch chest).

WANTS: White or yellow Liverpool second strip (30-32 inch chest).

Simon Westwood, 128 Crossdale Road, Brightonmet, Bolton, Lancs BL2 5NE.

OFFER: Man. Utd silk scarf (as new), official 1977 giant FA Cup poster, mug, bobble hat, old style socks and key ring.

WANTS: Anything to do with Bristol City or Exeter. Tim Burston, Hollydene, Clayhidon, Cullompton, Devon EX15 3PG.

OFFER: Subbuteo equipment including teams, goals and pitch.

WANTS: Tottenham 1980-81 annual or anything to do with St Etienne of France. Robert Hudson, 78A New Road, Netley Abbey, Southampton, Hants SO3 5BS.

OFFER: Personally signed Ipswich Town poster.

WANTS: Small individual pictures signed by Tottenham or Manchester United players. Steven Murphy, 82 The Glade, Old Coulsdon, Surrey CR3 1SN.

SWOP SHOP

STAR CHALLENGE

Here are the ten selected matches for this week, together with the predictions of a lucky 'Match' reader and his famous opponent. There's a space for you to fill in your predictions and a column for

the actual result. Award two points for every correct score and one point if the result is correct (i.e. home win, away win, draw), but the scoreline is wrong.

	Reader's forecast	Star's forecast	Your forecast	Result
Arsenal v Swansea	2-1	1-0		
Brighton v Watford	0-2	1-2		
Ipswich v Southampton	1-0	2-0		
Liverpool v Notts Co.	3-0	3-0		
Luton v Coventry	0-0	0-1		
Man. Utd v Aston Villa	2-2	1-1		
Nott'm F. v Sunderland	2-1	3-0		
Stoke v Norwich	2-2	3-0		
West Brom v Everton	2-0	2-1		
West Ham v Spurs	1-3	2-2		

BIRMINGHAM City's Jim Blyth has been sidelined through injury for the last month, but he's in action for 'Match Weekly' this week in the first 'Star Challenge' of 1983.

The brave City keeper has been challenged by 21-year-old Birmingham fan, Louis Menzies, of Penge, London.

Jim broke his arm in a first-half collision with Sunderland's Gordon Chisholm, but showing true "Blyth Spirit", he played for an hour in pain to help his side to victory.

The former Coventry 'keeper hopes to be back between the sticks by the end of the month.

In 'Star Challenge', the name of the game is forecasting results and Jim will be trying to predict more correct scorelines than his challenger, Louis Menzies.

Each week we select 10 matches and points are awarded depending on the accuracy of the forecast. If Louis manages to score more points than Jim, he will receive a special 'Star Challenge' certificate.

Win or lose, he will get a personally autographed picture of the City 'keeper.

If you would like to take part in 'Star Challenge' then write to us, enclosing your name, age and address — together with a black and white photograph of

JIM BLYTH

yourself — and, most importantly, a home telephone number.

And don't forget to tell us your favourite team and top player. Write to: 'Star Challenge', Match Weekly, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DJ.

It's bad luck to 'Match' reader Peter Cooke, of Doncaster, who was beaten 8-6 by Swansea's Ray Kennedy in the December 18 'Star Challenge'.

FIXTURES

Saturday Jan. 1
DIVISION ONE

Arsenal v Swansea
Birmingham v Man. City
Brighton v Watford
Ipswich v Southampton
Liverpool v Notts Co
Luton v Coventry
Man. Utd v Aston Villa
Nott'm F v Sunderland
Stoke v Norwich
West Brom v Everton
West Ham v Spurs

DIVISION TWO

Barnsley v Grimsby
Bolton v Blackburn
Burnley v Sheff. Wed
C. Palace v Leicester
Fulham v Wolves
Middlesbrough v Leeds
Newcastle v Carlisle
Oldham v Derby
Rotherham v Charlton
Shrewsbury v Chelsea

DIVISION THREE

Bournemouth v Brentford
Cardiff v Bristol R
Exeter v Newport
Gillingham v Lincoln
Huddersfield v Bradford
Millwall v Chesterfield
Oxford v Southend
Portsmouth v Plymouth
Preston v Wigan
Sheff. Utd v Orient
Walsall v Doncaster
Wrexham v Reading

DIVISION FOUR

Aldershot v Mansfield
Bristol C v Swindon
Hartlepool v Blackpool
Hull v Rochdale
Northampton v Port Vale
Peterborough v Hereford
Scunthorpe v Chester
Stockport v Halifax
Torquay v Colchester
Tranmere v Crewe
Wimbledon v Bury
York v Darlington

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION

Aberdeen v Hibernian
Dundee v Dundee United
Kilmarnock v Motherwell
Morton v St Mirren
Rangers v Celtic

FIRST DIVISION

Alloa v Falkirk
Clyde v Queen's Park
Dumbarton v Clydebank
Hamilton v Airdrie
Hearts v St Johnstone
Partick v Ayr
Raith v Dunfermline

SECOND DIVISION

Albion v Stenhousemuir
Berwick v Meadowbank
Brechin v Montrose
Cowdenbeath v East Fife
East Stirling v Stirling Albion
Forfar v Arbroath
Queen of Sth v Stranraer

Monday Jan. 3
DIVISION ONE

Aston Villa v Southampton
Brighton v Nott'm F
Liverpool v Arsenal
Man. Utd v West Brom
Norwich v Swansea
Notts Co v Sunderland
Stoke v Birmingham
Spurs v Everton
Watford v Man. City

DIVISION TWO

Burnley v Middlesbrough
Cambridge v Blackburn
C. Palace v Rotherham
Derby v QPR
Fulham v Shrewsbury
Grimsby v Carlisle
Leicester v Chelsea
Newcastle v Bolton
Oldham v Barnsley
Sheff. Wed v Charlton
Wolves v Leeds

DIVISION THREE

Bradford v Gillingham
Brentford v Cardiff
Chesterfield v Wrexham
Doncaster v Bournemouth
Lincoln v Preston
Newport v Millwall
Plymouth v Walsall
Reading v Oxford
Southend v Exeter
Wigan v Huddersfield

DIVISION FOUR

Blackpool v Peterborough
Bury v Northampton
Chester v Wimbledon
Colchester v Hartlepool
Crewe v Stockport
Darlington v Bristol C
Halifax v Torquay
Hereford v Aldershot
Mansfield v Hull
Port Vale v York
Rochdale v Tranmere
Swindon v Scunthorpe

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION

Celtic v Dundee
Dundee United v Aberdeen
Hibernian v St Mirren
Morton v Kilmarnock
Motherwell v Rangers

FIRST DIVISION

Airdrie v Hearts
Ayr v Clyde
Clydebank v Hamilton
Dunfermline v Alloa
Falkirk v Raith
Queen's Park v Dumbarton
St Johnstone v Partick

SECOND DIVISION

Arbroath v Brechin
East Fife v Berwick
Meadowbank v Queen of Sth
Montrose v Forfar
Stenhousemuir v E. Stirling
Stirling v Cowdenbeath
Stranraer v Albion

Tuesday Jan. 4

DIVISION ONE

West Ham v Luton

DIVISION THREE

Bristol R. v Sheff. Utd

Friday Jan. 7

DIVISION FOUR

Colchester v Hereford
Stockport v Torquay



Birmingham City 'keeper Jim Blyth (right) and his challenger Louis Menzies (left).



MOVE OVER, LUTHER

MOVE over Luther Blissett, I want my England place back.

Following his hat-trick against Luxembourg, he is now in possession of one of the England striking roles and it's up to me, for one, to do something about it.

I would like to think that the Watford striker's role is just a temporary one. But after scoring three goals on his first full appearance for England, it's going to be difficult for manager Bobby Robson to drop him.

I appreciate that Luxembourg were not the most difficult of opponents, but no matter how poor the opposition, they have to be beaten.

It's easy for me to sit back and believe I would have enjoyed the same goal jamboree as Luther had I been fit.

In the circumstances, I would have hoped to have got on the scoresheet at least once, but I might not have been in the right position at the right time as Luther was.

We'll have to wait and see whether the old soccer maxim of 'never change a winning team' also applies at international level.

Whatever decision Bobby Robson reaches before the next game against Greece in March, he is certainly spoilt for choice.

Apart from myself, big Cyrille Regis, Peter Withe and Trevor Francis are also gunning to regain their places in the England attack.

The manager knew how disappointed I was to pull out of the England game.

And he appreciated my honesty in withdrawing two days before the match because I knew I wouldn't be 100 per cent fit after being injured against Everton on the Saturday.

I know he has been pleased with my partnership with Tony Woodcock and that I would have played against Luxembourg had I been fit.

Having played in all of England's difficult games against France, West Germany (twice), Spain and Greece, it was frustrating to miss out on the chance to add to my international tally against inferior opposition.

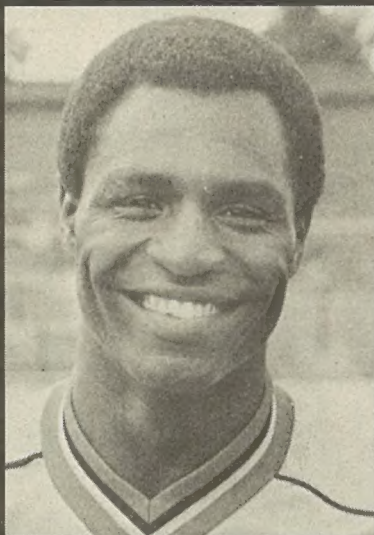
I was so disappointed that I couldn't bear to watch the game at Wembley or even on the television.

After declaring myself unfit on the Monday afternoon, I returned home to Ipswich and spent the

THE PAUL

MARINER COLUMN

The Ipswich skipper comes out fighting as the New Year kicks off.



Luther Blissett — the man in possession.

night of the game at a rock concert given by my old friend Ian Gillan.

But you have to accept these situations in football.

You can take nothing for granted and, as happened against Luxembourg, my misfortune proved to be Luther's gain.

All I can do now is to keep playing well for my club and hope that when the Greece game comes around, I am going to be the best man for the job.

At club level, Ipswich are looking for a good FA Cup run to make up for the disappointments in the League so far.

But our Third Round visit to Charlton next week won't be a picnic by any measure of means.

We defeated them 3-0 at Portman Road in the Fifth Round three years ago and the scoreline rather flattered us that day.

With Danish star Allan Simonsen in attack and striking partner Derek Hales eager to show everyone that he belongs in the First Division, they will

take some containing.

No doubt Charlton fans will be keen to see how little Simonsen fares against First Division defenders.

I have never played against him, but having been a favourite with the Barcelona fans and a former European 'Footballer of the Year', he must be a highly talented player.

It's important for the club from a financial point of view and for the fans that we produce something special in the Cup.

I know we are still in with an outside chance of clawing a place in the UEFA Cup next season, although two successive defeats just before Christmas dented our hopes.

If you want to get into the top six, you can't usually afford to lose more than six or seven games and, before the hectic holiday period, we had already lost seven.

Our performance in the 2-0 home defeat by Everton was our worst of the season. We were pathetic in every department and all the players were thoroughly disgusted.

On the other hand, Everton were tactically superior on the day and took full advantage of our poor display.

The following week we were a little unfortunate to return from Watford empty-handed.

With the wind and slope in their favour in the first half, they bombarded us with long balls

and it paid dividends with a couple of goals.

But in the second half, we dominated the game. We missed a few chances before I grabbed a goal near the end — my first in the League for nearly three months.

We wondered afterwards whether the outcome would have been different had I won the toss and kicked with the wind in the first half.

We entertain Southampton this weekend which means a return to Portman Road for former Ipswich stalwart Mick Mills.

I understand he is doing a great job down there for Lawrie McMenemy and his signing has certainly coincided with Southampton's improved form.

I'm certain he'll get a rapturous welcome when he runs out against us because the Ipswich fans have always had a soft spot for Mick.

I only hope he doesn't do too much damage to his old team.

See you in two weeks...

Paul Mariner
● Paul Mariner was talking to Melvyn Beck.



SIMON CHOOSES LIFE WITH THE LIONS

SIMON Kistemaker, a 42-year-old ex-Dutch professional with Roda JC, is on his way 'Down Under' as coach to Brisbane Lions.

"I speak fluent English so language will be no problem," he says.

"On top of that, I'm a great lover of English football and I understand the Australians have learned how to play the English game."

BIN-GO!

GERMAN SIN BIN GETS GO-AHEAD

AN ice-hockey style "sin bin" system will operate in the West German Bundesliga next season.

The West German League have FIFA's go-ahead for a trial period.

So from next August, referees, in addition to using red and yellow cards, will be able to order players to sit it out for ten minutes.

Players will be banished to the sin bin for the kind of offence that gets a warning or a booking on the Continent.

But many are not happy about the idea.

Bayern Munich's international midfield player Paul Breitner sums up the feeling of many when he says: "This rule will take football back to the Middle Ages. I think it is the worst idea the Bundesliga have had."

"I know they do this in ice hockey, but that sport can get really tough. We are not good little boys, but neither are we dunces or idiots who are sent by teachers to

stand in the corner."

"Sitting in a special sin bin where 20,000 or 30,000 people can laugh at you is a bit hard on players."

Whatever Paul says, the system has been successful in West German amateur football for two years and, over the border in Holland, they've been doing just that for a long time in youth leagues. Again it has worked.



Paul Breitner — "We are not dunces".

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

TWO of Peru's World Cup players, Jose Velasquez and Ramon Quiroga, plus two officials, have been arrested by police in Lima.

According to Interpol, the quartet were wanted for questioning in Spain concerning the use of false dollars during the World Cup Finals. Police are also looking into another little matter in South America.

Marc Martines, a director of Francana, went into the FA Sao Paulo dressing room ninety minutes before the two teams met in the Brazilian League, and handed the players a £1,000 cheque. Sao Paulo players claimed they were told they had to lose or the cheque would be stopped.

They lost 1-0, but Martines denies any hint of a bribe. "It was nothing like that at all," he says. "It was my way of saying thank-you after their triumph over Corinthians, our old enemy."

GOALKEEPER SCHOOLS 1983



**KIT CARSON, NATIONAL GOALKEEPER CENTRE,
WESTERFIELD HOUSE, HUMBER DOUCY LANE,
IPSWICH, SUFFOLK. Tel: (0473) 216 796.**

To: Kit Carson, National Goalkeeper Centre, (Dept. M.W.), Westerfield House, Humber Doucy Lane, Ipswich, Suffolk

Please send me full information plus booking forms.
In enclose a 12½p stamp to cover postage.

NAME

ADDRESS

**RAY CLEMENCE
PAUL COOPER
*BRUCE GROBBELAAR
PHIL PARKES**

*Bruce Grobbelaar Schools to be held in Manchester.

WHO'LL be Match Weekly's 'Top Stopper' in 1983... the goalkeeper with the safest hands in soccer?

We've compiled exclusive tables which indicate who has been performing best between the sticks this season.

And we'll be updating the tables as the season progresses.

TOP STOPPERS

The first column after the 'keeper's name shows the number of League games each goalkeeper has played.

The second column shows the number of goals conceded and the third column is the average number of minutes play between each goal.

For instance, Nottingham Forest's Hans Van Breukelen had conceded, on average, one goal every 74 minutes after 14 First Division appearances.

Only League matches played up to and including December 19 have been used in the compilation of these tables, and goalkeepers must have played ten or more games for one club to qualify.



All smiles from Les Sealey who has emerged as a shock candidate for honours in our 'Top Stoppers' League.

DIVISION ONE

Keeper	Games	Gls.	Mins. pld per goal
1 Gary Bailey (Man. United)	19	14	122
2 Bruce Grobbelaar (Liverpool)	19	17	101
3 Les Sealey (Coventry)	17	18	95
4 Joe Corrigan (Man. City)	13	15	78
5 Mark Grew (West Brom)	10	12	75
6 Hans Van Breukelen (Nottm. For.)	14	17	74
7 Steve Sherwood (Watford)	19	22	73
8 Paul Cooper (Ipswich)	16	20	72
9 Jimmy Rimmer (Aston Villa)	19	24	71
10 George Wood (Arsenal)	17	22	70
11 Phil Parkes (West Ham)	19	28	61
12 Ray Clemence (Tottenham)	18	27	60
13 Dai Davies (Swansea)	19	30	57
14 Peter Fox (Stoke)	12	20	54
15 Chris Woods (Norwich)	19	32	52
16 Nev Southall (Everton)	13	23	51
16 Peter Shilton (Southampton)	16	28	51
18 Raddy Avramovic (Notts County)	19	34	50
19 Chris Turner (Sunderland)	18	34	48
20 Jim Blyth (Birmingham)	12	24	45
20 Graham Moseley (Brighton)	12	24	45
22 Jake Findlay (Luton)	15	37	36

DIVISION TWO

1 Peter Hucker (QPR)	20	17	106
2 John Lukic (Leeds)	19	18	95
3 John Burridge (Wolves)	19	19	90
4 Bob Bolder (Sheff. Wed.)	19	22	78
5 Bobby Horn (Barnsley)	18	22	74

DIVISION THREE

1 David Felgate (Lincoln)	18	16	101
2 Brian Cox (Huddersfield)	18	18	90
2 Phil Kite (Bristol Rovers)	20	20	90
4 Ron Hillyard (Gillingham)	19	20	86

DIVISION FOUR

1 Joe Neenan (Scunthorpe)	19	12	142
1 David Brown (Bury)	19	12	142
1 Barry Siddall (Port Vale)	19	12	142
1 Jimmy Allan (Swindon)	19	12	142
5 Tony Norman (Hull)	17	11	139

SCOTTISH PREMIER

1 Hamish McAlpine (Dundee Utd)	15	11	123
2 Jim Leighton (Aberdeen)	15	12	112
3 Pat Bonner (Celtic)	15	16	84
4 Jim Stewart (Rangers)	15	17	79

THE ROAD TO WEMBLEY

FA Cup special on Worcester City — the Alliance Premier giantkillers preparing to take on First Division Coventry!

Plus The Third Division skipper out to topple his boyhood heroes.

GREAT COLOUR LINE-UP MANCHESTER CITY and MANSFIELD TEAM GROUPS

**RAY CLEMENCE
COLIN MORRIS
GEORGE BERRY
NICK PICKERING**

MATCH FACTS

Our exclusive results service brings you right up-to-date with all those vital Christmas and New Year fixtures.

PROGRAMME OFFER

Don't miss token four... it could be the one you need to send for your free programmes.

NEXT WEEK • NEXT WEEK • NEXT WEEK

SHARP SHOOTER!

Everton striker Graeme Sharp takes on a Match Weekly reader in Star Challenge.

WIN A FIVE-DAY SOCCER HOLIDAY FREE!

Plus... super soccer tee-shirts must be won.

PETER NICHOLAS

'The truth about me and Terry Neill!'

KING KENNY

Kenny Dalglish recalls the second of his two superb goals against Belgium with the help of Match artist Steve McGarry.

STAR WRITERS GRAHAM RIX

'Arsenal for Wembley'

DAVID CROSS

'It's time the FA Cup went North'

GRAEME SOUNESS

'The trophy we want for Bob Paisley'

Why Manchester United striker LOU MACARI is happy on the bench.

SUBBUTEO BONANZA WINNERS

BELFAST reader Colin Campbell, aged 14, is the lucky winner of our December 11 'Design a Subbuteo Team Strip' competition.

He received the Subbuteo World of Sport compendium, a gigantic case which contains table football, rugby and cricket.

The following six runners-up each receive a set of the latest Subbuteo Club Edition. They are: Andrew Gibbons, of Birmingham; G. Pursell, of Telford; Steven Hand, of Chester; M. Fearnehough, of Liverpool; David Edwards, of Pencoed; Derek Lawther, of Belfast.

The following 200 consolation winners each receive a Match Weekly All Star Subbuteo team.

Michael Parkhouse, Southampton; Ian Ross, Larkfield; M. Evans, Batley; Nigel Dove, Huddersfield; Jon Andre Holloy, London; Michael Dennis, Welling; Phillip Hackney, Leicester; Julian Colyer, Sheffield; Stephen Deary, Gateshead; Darren Milburn, Aylesbury; Jason Neumann, West Ealing; Timothy Clayton, Benfleet; Michael Hislop, St Helens; G. Bowes, Hartlepool; R. Bendall, Chesterfield; Simon Haigh, Mirfield; Derek Spencer, Croydon; Peter Thomas, Merthyr Tydfil; Calum McCowan, Glasgow; Keith Bowden, Luton; Jayne Whistance, Wednesbury; Harvey Sharman, Shipley; Paul Johnson, Potters Bar; Stephen Walker, Bishop's Cleeve; Joseph Stoddart, Glasgow; Paul McDonald, Portsmouth; Terry Hughes, Tamworth.

Robert Cushway, Cliftonville; A. Nicololou, Bristol; Simon Barrie, Stepney; Marc Butcher, Trobridge; Christopher Brown, Houghton-Le-Springs; Michael Ross, Carlisle; Steven Mill, Dundee; Michael Todd, Cottenham; Michael Caulfield, Ellesmere Port; Peter Brimmell, Watford; M. Harland, Guildford; Royston Kloet, Swansea; J. Eason, Norwich; Craig Millard, Letchworth; Andrew Hayward, Isle of Sheppey; Paul Rushworth, York; Simon Patrick, Colchester; David Hughes,

Liverpool; Lee Nicholls, Crawley; Neil Clarke, Doncaster; Paul Gray, Layland; Martin Wakeley, Rugby; Scott Niesyty, Normanton; Peter Carr, London; Jason Connolly, Hammerwich; Anthony Hall, Market Harborough; Carwyn Jones, Workop; A. Grant, Morden; Stephen Cotton, Biggleswade; Simon Smith, Lutterworth; Martin Doherty, Warley; Mike Roberts, Oakhampton; Graeme Searle, Horsham; Debbie Hughes, Solihull; Darren Evans, Cardiff; Wayne Savage, Northampton; Christian Ayres, Loudwater; Mark Summerfield, Saltash; Simon Buddlesdin, Steaford; Dominic Underwood, Stoke; Chris Gould, Glasgow; Stephen Creagan, Bury; L. Dunn, Luton; Richard Duffin, King's Heath; R. Sharp, Stourbridge; John Knight, Cheadle; Simon Timoney, Kettering; Kevin Bradley, Banbury; Gary Hare, Lincoln; Lee Jones, Swansea; Andrew Saunders, Newton Abbot; R. Jordan, Sidcup; Nicholas King, Nottingham; Adrian Edwards, Long Sutton; Julian Cottrell, Bedworth; Gary Smith, Middlesbrough; Peter Jardine, Coventry; James Stephens, Sheffield; Mark Windle, Sheffield; Christopher Hartshorn, Wolverhampton; Peter Gedge, Morpeth; Matthew Howell, Burnham-on-Sea; Nicholas Carson, Romford; R. Steadman, Sutton-on-Hull; Bob Burt, Catford; Tim Darch, Kingston-upon-Thames; Beverley Allen, Bicester; Peter Pattoura, Finchley; Barry Dimes, Islington; Raymond Benge, Eastbourne; Antony Williams, Southend; Simon Grant, Hollingworth; Richard Horton, Dorking.

Mark Davies, Feltham; Gurnack Dale, Gravesend; Noel Adams, Burton-on-Trent; Grant Quinton, Gt. Yarmouth; Christopher Wood, Newark; Robert Ball, Waltham Cross; Tim Grube, Penkridge; Fraser Gorton, Hemel Hempstead; Darren Watkins, Corringham; Carl Morrison, Norwich; Jason Lee, Wallasey; Kirk Wheeler, Swindon; Richard Hewson, Hessele. Rest of consolation prize winners will appear in next week's issue.

Kerry Dixon Reading

FULL NAME: Kerry Michael Dixon.
BIRTHPLACE/DATE: Luton, July 24, 1961.
HEIGHT/WEIGHT: 6ft 0in/13st.
MARRIED: No.
CAR: Ford Granada 2.3GL.
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Tottenham and Dunstable.
TRADE BEFORE TURNING PRO: Toolmaker.
CLUB NICKNAME: 'Dixie'.
WORST EVER INJURY: Strained ankle ligaments last season.
FAVOURITE FOOTBALL LEAGUE PLAYER AND WHY: Frank Stapleton... the best centre forward around.
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Luton.
FAVOURITE FOREIGN PLAYER AND WHY: Paolo Rossi... he's so sharp in the box.
BEST ALL-TIME BRITISH TEAM: Shilton, McGrain, O'Leary, Moore, Cooper, Brady, Charlton R, Ball, Law, Greaves, Best.
ALL-TIME INTERNATIONAL XI: Shilton (England), Vogts (W. Germany), Moore (England), Beckenbauer, Breitner (both W. Germany), Maradona (Argentina), Charlton R. (England), Cruyff (Holland), Pele (Brazil), Best (N. Ireland), Law (Scotland).
FAVOURITE AWAY GROUND: Bramall Lane, Sheffield.
BEST GOAL SCORED: My second goal in the 7-5 defeat at Doncaster this season.
BEST GOAL SEEN SCORED: Glenn Hoddle's volley for Tottenham against Man. United in 1980-81 League Cup.
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: Gillingham's Steve Bruce.
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Reading's 7-5 defeat at Doncaster this season when I scored four goals.
OWN MAGIC MOMENT IN FOOTBALL: Scoring four goals in the above League game.
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Being released by Tottenham.
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS: Any other sport, as I like most of them.
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES: Winning, scoring goals, music and good films.
MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES: Losing and spectator violence.
FAVOURITE TV SHOW: Sports and quiz shows.
TV SHOWS YOU ALWAYS SWITCH OFF: Crossroads and Coronation Street.
FAVOURITE READING: Newspapers and football magazines.
FAVOURITE POP STAR: All soul music.
FAVOURITE FOOD: Steak.
FAVOURITE DRINK: Tea and fresh orange.
BEST COUNTRY VISITED: America.
FAVOURITE ACTOR/ACTRESS: Marlon Brando and Susan George.
BEST FILM SEEN IN PAST YEAR: The Godfather.
BEST FRIEND: Reading team mate Steve Wood.
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: My father.
WHAT DON'T YOU LIKE ABOUT FOOTBALL: Losing and bad referees.
SUPERSTITIONS: None.
PRE-MATCH MEAL: Chicken and toast.
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: None.
PERSONAL AMBITION: To be happy in life and to make money.
PROFESSIONAL AMBITION: To play in the First Division and further if possible.
CAREER AFTER PLAYING: Hope to start my own business of some sort.
PLAYER FOR THE FUTURE: Reading's Steve Wood.
WHO WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET: Pele.
ADVICE TO YOUNGSTERS: Listen to advice and give 100 per cent.

Kerry Dixon

